From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: John Dorson K2JHU Real Estate Consultant <jdorson@bbs.mpcs.com>
Subject: [3107] 20 foot poles
Message-ID: <199610291648.LAA27833@bbs.mpcs.com>

Sports Authority carries the 20 foot pole used for the SLV.

$24.95...

Thank You

John Dorson Real Estate Consultant in Brevard County Florida
E-Mail To: jdorson@bbs.mpcs.com

```
 _____________________________________________________________________
| Trying for WAS -     AL,AK,AZ,AR,CA,CO,CT,FL,GA,IL,IA,KS,KY,LA,ME,MD,MA|
| and worked these:     MI,MN,MT,NH,NJ,NY,NC,ND,OH,OK,OR,PA,RI,TX,VT,VA,WA|
|             WI                                                |
|_______________________________________________________________________|
```

K2JHU only QRP... CQC #351, GQRP # 9092, QRP-L #672

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: James <LAGESON@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [3159] 80 mtr antenna help
Message-ID: <19961030022824.AAA15655@LOCALNAME>

I want to put up a 80 mtr antenna for SS this weekend. My problem is no tall supports. I have one tree in backyard about 35 ft high. Am thinking of a inverted L but invite any suggestions. There is some big talk which is getting me fired up, beware. Remember unassisted means no peeking at your local packet cluster, keep if fair.

Thanks and gl SS, Jim WA0RPI(for a few more days)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Ron Giuntini <rong@slip.net>
Subject: [3124] 8088 Logger
Message-ID: <E0vIJGN-0000Z5-00@ferret.slip.net>

I was lucky enough to receive a copy of LOG-EQF from a list member but I am unable to get it to run. Is there anyone using this logger on an original IBM PC? When I attempt to run the program the system hangs. Perhaps

someone using it would be able to reply with a list of the files that are in their directory. Maybe I am missing one. I should be able to set up the program when I type LOG-EQF but it just hangs up. I am pretty good with computers and wonder if it requires a particular config.sys setup. At this point I have no Config.sys file in the system. It is bare bones now. Any ideas? I will send copies of this shareware program to anyone that wants it, but I would like to see it run on my computer first...

Ron KB6GK
NorCal #1718
San Francisco

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com
Subject: [3089] AA3MD, N9DD
Message-ID: <961029084549_1548998037@emout01.mail.aol.com>

Hi guys,
Thanks for the qso's over the weekend. I was
mobile/portable/whatever near Asheville, NC.
Using the OHR400 and Hustler antenna on
the bumper.

Craig- you called CQ while I was tuning the antenna
tuner and I couldnt resist calling you back even though
I had to use a straight key while leaning into the back of the
truck! Sorry the fist was so bad! Tnk for the chat.

Tom- By then, I was camped outin the back seat tuning the
band and "fishing" good to hear another qrpler!

Thanks guys. The mobiling home was unfruitful, so much
ignition noise and sigs were weak. Didn't have a qso for
the rest of the trip. I even let my wife drive so I could
concentrate on the radio without endangering our lives!
73, Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3145] BC stations near 30M
Message-ID: <199610292056.NAA00157@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

I listen to the BBC World Service for *real* news several times a

week and a closet SWLer. Here are some of the powerful shortwave stations located near the 30M band ... most overload my regens! Frequencies are those in use from about 0000-0400 UTC. All of these are several hundred kW xmtrs using high gain curtain array antennas to beam their signals to North America during early evening. Some have effective radiated power (ERP) of 1 megawatt or more! Also note that some of these stations actually use transmitters quite close to the U.S., such as from Canada or Carribean Islands.

9430 Monitor Radio (Boston)
9455 Voice of America
9475 WWCR (Nashville)
9505 WYFR (Florida)
9535 Duetsche Welle (Germany)
9590 BBC London (Carribean xmtrs)
9615 Duetsche Welle (Germany)
9620 Voice of Russia
9625 Radio Canada Intl
9635 Voice of America
9640 Duetsche Welle (Germany)
9710 Radio China Intl (uses R. Canada xmtrs)
9745 HCJB (Quito, Ecuador)
9775 Voice of America
9820 Radio Havana Cuba
9845 Radio Netherlands (Carribean xmtrs)
9885 Radio Switzerland Intl
9915 BBC London (Carribean xmtrs)
9955 WRMI (Miami, FL)
9975 KVOH (Los Angeles, CA)

On a 30M rig, broadcast interference is likely due to overload, although an unwanted mixer product can not be completely eliminated. For this reason, see if you can identify the station you hear; they usually identify very clearly on the hour and half-hour, even if broadcasting in a foreign language, often citing the frequencies they're currently using. From the frequencies, you can piddle with your LO/IF frequencies to see if you have an image or just overload. These stations are within 500KHz of the 30M band, and again, very powerful international broadcast stations.

72, Paul NA5N

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)
Subject: [3112] Computers and Ham Radio

Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961029172322.283f3de2@eloi>

Let me preface this by stating that I have obtained much of my income by developing software of one sort of another over the past 25 years or so.

However -- I do believe that many folks get completely carried away with computers. For example, I can't for the life of me figure out why someone would sit in front of a computer with a picture of a transceiver's knobs and switches on the screen and use the mouse/keyboard to tune the receiver that is sitting right next to the computer! I can see the need for something like this to control a remotely located instrument (been there, done that), but geezz, folks, computer control of a device sitting next to the computer, when the device has nice knobs and switches and pretty dials? Get a life!

What does this have to do with QRP? Absolutely nothing; just felt like bitchin about something... Ah! I feel all better now! :-) :-)

Back to writing the @!$ software documentation...

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Steve Slavsky <sslavsky@CapAccess.org>
Subject: [3137] CQ WW DX Contest
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.961029151438.27497A-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

Another disappointing time trying to fight the big guns for DX while at QRP SSB levels. Also, even though I worked a few SSB stations on 10 at 5 watts, the CW portion was stone cold dead in Virginia. No response to my 5 watt CQs.

I know some of you manage to rack up a lot of contacts on SSB QRP during these contests, but I can't figure out how to break through - especially on 20 meters. That band was solid stations with no way a QRP sig could get through. A bit more luck on 15, at least there was some space between stations. I did get one thrill, though - some one in Europe said "Please stand by for the QRP station." First time that happened to me - also the last during this contest. Did have one or two stations say "nice signal for QRP," so that was a boost.

Anyway, back to hunting foxes and maybe a bit more luck during the CW SS. As far as contests go at QRP level, I've found the best results for me are the single band ones - like 10 meters, if its open or 160 - those folks were very nice last year in digging out the pipsqueak signal. I'll tell you, the temptation to crank up to a blazing 100 watts out was there, but I resisted. Probably wouldn't have made a lot of difference

anyway on 20. Oh yeah, total score on 160, 20, 15 & 10 was 1488 -
whoopeee :-(. IMHO, QRP stands a much better chance during the WPX contest.

72/73,

Steve, N4EUK, QRP-L #143
Reston, VA

EMPS: QSOs=6, S/C=4/1, DX=0

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)
Subject: [3108] Daylight Time...
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961029165644.1c37f8e0@eloi>

>
>I've always wondered why someone doesn't invent a watch/clock
>with a daylight savings time button on it. Just push the button
>and it automatically adjusts for you.
>
Gee, my MFJ "World Clock" has just such a button! So did the Casio (sp?)
"Nerd Watch" that was popular a few years back...

My UNIX workstation also knows all about daylight and standard time changes.

Ya just gotta keep up with technology! :-) :-)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>
Subject: [3126] FCC callsign database - frozen?
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.1.846615227.32716.myers@bigboy>

So, all you folks patiently waiting for your vanity calls, note
that the FCC callsign database at the FCC ftp site has apparently
not been updated in the last 24 hours (the daily zip file for
yesterday contains no changes at all - this is unusual). Furthermore,

the data files which contain the entire database are updated on a weekly basis, and should have been updated early yesterday - and they haven't been.

This all makes me wonder if the database is undergoing some kind of massive update (i.e., processing 5000 vanity applications) and is therefore frozen. Please don't call the FCC consumer hotline and ask those poor people yet again when the calls will be issued - what can they say? The calls will be issued when the calls are issued.

Dana KK6JQ
Dana@Source.Net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: SYDV00A@prodigy.com (MR FLOYD E SMITHBERG)
Subject: [3164] FOX-Novice
Message-ID: <199610300339.XAA11550@mime4.prodigy.com>

Thanks Niel for my first Novice FOX. You were doing much better than I was....had the keyer programed for 10wpm but when you QRS I was stuck with no straight key. Tried to send with side of the paddles but it was awful. Doubt if you could make out my message so got out old straight key and called again after you had called CQ a few times with no takers and we got a good exchange. Sorry there wasn't more activity for you but you did very well, sounded like your ready for upgrade! :-) Niel, WA7SSA was 339 to 569 in Phoenix 7112 from 0200-0330Z...very readable most of the time inspite of QSB/QRN. Heard '6TOY(?) and KU7Y here but no others.
72/73 Floyd NQ7X   Phoenix ScQRPion

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: rhight@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [3103] FOX: Got the critter
Message-ID: <199610291633.JAA13030@primenet.com>

Almost forgot the Fox was out, but got the rig on and settled down, just in time to hear him at about 0150Z. Nice signal, very readable but just above the noise level. Heard WB4ZXA get him, so the propagation was there.

Also heard K1MG make contact, and was glad to hear Dave, W6EMD snare his first Fox.

Two more this week...Cool!

72/73 de Roger AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: wb8ygg@juno.com (Bradley S. Mitchell)
Subject: [3165] FOX:Heard everbody but!
Message-ID: <19961028.192339.12223.1.WB8YGG@juno.com>

Couldn't hear Ron at all last night, and was itching to put one of my TiCK-1 prototypes on the air. (God am I glad I can finally talk about this thing, it's been driving me nuts!).

I heard everybody else, but never heard him.

I finally had a nice qso with WB0WQS Kelly, which made it all worth while.
I may have to wait till a fox station is a bit further away before I can hear them.

73 Brad WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Todd Nichols <nichols@rtp.ericsson.se>
Subject: [3116] FS: Books
Message-ID: <199610291746.MAA08759@sunmgc1.rtp.ericsson.se>

Hi, y'all,

I have the following radio-related books for sale. Prices do not include shipping, but if you buy more than two I will pay shipping. Or let me know if you have other radio goodies (particularly parts or books) to trade!

Microwave Engineering: High Frequency Transistors and Circuit Design - $5

Modern Antenna Design - by Milligan - 1985 - $10

Microwave Handbook vol. 1: Components and Operating Techniques - ed by Dixon - 1991 - $8

Microwave Engineering and Applications - by Gandhi - 1981 - $10

The Physics of Semiconductor Devices 4th Ed - by Fraser - 1986 - $8

Build Your Own Low-Cost Data Acquisition Display Devices - by Johnson - 1994 - $8

Solid State QRP Projects - by Noll W3FQJ - 1969 - $8

Nonlinear Circuits Handbook - Analog Devices - $3

Microelectronics: Digital and Analog Circuits and Systems - by Millman - 1979 $8

Todd Nichols KB0HQU Ericsson Inc. (919) 685-2597
nichols@rtp.ericsson.se Research Triangle Park, NC
"Ensign, set a new course. There's coffee in that nebula!" - Capt. Janeway

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Dan Tayloe-P26412" <Dan_Tayloe-P26412@email.mot.com>
Subject: [3099] IRF510 5w Amp
Message-ID: <M27683918.005.1o1d4.1.961029155126Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=SATCG/OU=AZBH/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

Luke:

I think how much power you can get out of IRF510 depends upon how much power you feed it. One of the ARRL publications (QRP book, red cover) has an three band MOSFET cw transmitter which gets 12 to 15 watts output out of a single IRF510.

I use one of these as a final in my homebrew 40m xcvr. By varying the bias voltage on the gate and driving with about 50 mw (rough guess), I get 1.7 watts out with 12v.

By going to 24v, I get about 5.25 watts (!) out.

The input to the IRF510 is highly capacitive and is *not* at all a high impedance to RF. As the input voltage starts to go higher than the MOSFET threshold voltage and the drain voltage starts to fall on a MOSFET, the input C goes up *a lot*.

This effect is neat to watch with a scope as the driving power is kept constant and the gate bias is varied. At low bias voltages, input C is low, and the drive voltage is higher. At higher bias voltages, input C is much higher, and the driving voltage is smaller.

I vary the gate bias in order to vary the power output. I also key the gate bias along with the driver stage in order to get rid of any possible idle current and associated noise from the MOSFET while receiving.

For me, the 1.7 watts output (40m) is obtained with about 3.5 volts gate bias, and about 1 volt peak to peak of RF drive.

I am sure that driving a single device with a low impedance, high voltage source such as a 50 ohm, 1 watt (20v peak to peak) or 2 watt (28v peak to peak), you will be able to get *much* more than your desired 5 watts. More likely closer to the 12 to 15 watts discussed earlier. It will most likely be highly desirable to use an input attenuator to reduce the drive level to the IRF510.

And yes, I do find the IRF510 quite difficult to kill. However, I only get about 50% efficiency out of it. Driving it harder, you may do better.

Good Luck!

- Dan Tayloe, KK7BD, Phoenix, AZ QRPl # 696

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Roy Boggs <rboggs@pcc-uky.campus.mci.net>
Subject: [3158] K8DD in Bahamas
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19961030015619.00731008@pcc-uky.campus.mci.net>

Gang,

Hank Kohl, K8DD, is calling his heart out on 7.041.5 tonite (01:00Z'ish)from C6A if anyone would like to work him there. It sounds like several QRP'ers have kept him busy so far. It is so nice to hear someone calling CQ QRP from out in the big water and I hope he has a ball operating from there.

72, KE4KDT Roy

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [3073] Loop Antenna in Attic
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.961029003909.2247E-100000@u1.abs.net>

Hi CAM,

I fell out laughing after reading about your Attic Adventures.
Those of us with "Perfect Heads" are no longer allowed to do Atttic
Antenna work. (I bleed every time I go up there.) No "Early Warning
Detectors" :^) The wood work in the old house was exceedingly hard
and with sharp edges. I ended up padding it in places. We didn't have
a basement in that house and that meant our Storage was up there.
My XYL could always tell when I had been in the attic. Blood in the
bathroom and on the towels were usually a clue :^)
Ah! What memories. Did you think that it was a "Random Loop"? I would
guess that you unknowingly have chosen a "40 Meter House". Aka the
"Stealth Antenna" that I wrote of in The QRP Quarterly. I also have
a 40 Meter house. Full Wave Loop. I found it out one day when I was
trying to measure some wire for a new loop. I walked it around the house
twice as a form to hold it while I measured it. I think I was making the
80 metter loop at time. Now I wish I had included more antennas Inside of
the walls befoore I closed things in. One thing for sure, you don't have
to worry about your tree falling down with your antenna. Besides, It is
always warmer in the attic than outside. :^)

QRP DX TU (C) 1986 G.Danny Gingell, K3TKS@.abs.net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: ka7you@juno.com
Subject: [3134] Mini-Circuits Mixers?
Message-ID: <19961029.123658.3719.2.KA7YOU@juno.com>

I have been salvaging some parts from a 400+ MHz satellite navagation
unit, and have come upon some Mini-Circuits assemblies that look like
the SBL-1 Mixers but have numbers such as SRA-1, PSC2-1, PSCQ-2-90, and
TAK-1H.
     Can anyone identify these units? I don't ned exact specs, just the
basic function and frequency range would allow me to catalog them. If
not, I will write to Mini Circuits Labs. I found their address in the
Handbook.   If I can't see any use for them, I'll offer them to members
of the list rather than toss them out.
7 3
Rod Johnson KA7YOU

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [3157] N/T Fox Tonite or Tomorrow?
Message-ID: <199610300116.SAA17582@dancris.com>

Is Niel WA7SSA going to be on tonite (10/29) or tomorrow (10/30). There was an ambiguity in his note, which he corrected, and I missed.
73,
Bob, KI7MN QRP-L #271, NorCal #1228, CQC #274, QRP ARCI #8918, not in any order of importance.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Dan Tayloe-P26412" <Dan_Tayloe-P26412@email.mot.com>
Subject: [3114] NE602 Front End Overload
Message-ID: <M27686389.019.1t5rk.1.961029174243Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=SATCG/OU=AZBH/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

Was listening to 30m last night around 10 p.m. and noticed that I had weak AM detection of some shortwave station everywhere I tuned.

This is a new xcvr that I have just gotten on the air for the first time Sunday. It has the usually QRP receiver lineup: NE602 osc/mixer front end, four pole filter, MC1350 IF amp, one pole filter, NE602 osc/detector, LM386 audio amp.

I had been noticing previously that the sensitivity of the receiver is not as good I I would like. I can hear background noise, but it is about the same level as the background receiver "hiss". It seems to me that it could stand a 10 db preamp stage on the front end.

Of course this would make the AM detection problem worse.

That leads me to a couple questions:

- What is the closest shortwave broadcast band to 30m?

- Is it possible to add a 10 db preamp and a series tuned trap to get rid of the offending broadcast station and still keep 10.1 MHz?

- Should I just forget low receive power (NE602 front end) and go with a preamp/diode mixer front end instead?

- Could the overload be cured by adding back to back diodes across the input tuned circuit into the NE602 front end?

Of course, I only experienced this problem when the band was long and dead, but I like things to work right.

Any comments would be welcomed, especially if you have seem this

problem yourself.

Thanks much!

PS: 30m has really been jumping lately!

- Dan Tayloe, KK7BD, Phoenix, AZ, QRPl # 696

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [3155] NF3I/KA3RTE Shack cleaning sale!
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9610291926.A1579-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

Perfect time to clean out the closets (mine and KA3RTE's) - I'll be brief. EVERYthing is negotiable.

THREE MFJ-1704 heavy duty coax switches, never used, in box w/manual. Four coax antennas with ground position. Cast metal case, with lightning-protection bead. 0-500 MHz, 2.5 kW. $60 new, asking $48 each.

MFJ-931 Artificial ground. Very good condition with manual. $75 new, asking $50.

MFJ-202 RX noise bridge, with manual & range extender. New condition. $30.

Ramsey PA-10 2m FM amplifier. Cast metal case, 5 watts in gives 30-35 out. With box and manual, asking $45.

Ten-Tec model 291 compact antenna tuner. A couple of scuffs, one back flange on back of case is bent slightly. Steel, very solidly built. 50-position inductor. No meter, no balun, matches the Scout well. $89 new, asking $60.

Ten-Tec 238 tuner. 2 kW, roller inductor, 160-10m. 10:1 SWR handled easily. One wafer was scorched when switch was moved with too much power running through it - a replacement is included although at 100w levels the old one is fine. Box & manual included. New condition. $380 new, asking $275.

Daiwa DLA-80H 2m/440 MHz amp. Cooling fan, duplexed signals in/out. 65 watts on 440 and 85 watts on 2m. 2m preamp is blown, 440 preamp is OK. FM/SSB, hard keying, comes w/box & manual. $500-ish new, asking $350.

Datong ANF auto-notch filter. NON-DIGITAL, seeks out loud signal and latches onto it (either peak OR notch). Also has manual control. 0-4

kHz. Very tight filter. $50.

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 138 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w *** 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 *

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Barry Keating <Barry.P.Keating.1@nd.edu>
Subject: [3086] Novice FOX Wednesday Night
Message-ID: <v03007800ae9ba7dff4a9@[129.74.87.62]>

** Novice Fox **   ** Novice Fox **   ** Novice
Fox **

I will be on the air for a second time this Wednesday
evening (the local date will be October 30, 1996).

WD4MSM -- Novice Fox
Wednesday, October 30th (local date)
9:00 - 11:00 pm local (New York) time
8:00 - 10:00 pm local (Chicago) time
0200 - 0400 UTC
frequency: 7.112 +/- MHz (alternate: 7.121 MHz +/-)

QTH is South Bend, Indiana (90 miles east of Chicago)
QRP-L# 642

Come SLOWLY!! Hope for good conditions!

Barry Keating
WD4MSM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Phil, AC6LS" <ac6ls@amsat.org>
Subject: [3080] pixie II
Message-ID: <3275C683.3CA7@amsat.org>

Well, some major success here. got the pixie II hooked up this morning
and did a power on check- no smoke! OK.
there is an oscillation in the audio though, havent been able to locate
problem.
Power out check, hey 150mW on the WM-1/Bird DL! and on freq.
Hooked up the ant, and Ham buddy KK6IU copies me about 459 12 miles away
(7.040 Mhz)!

Hey, ain't QRP(p) fun and exciting???

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: w8lrm@qtm.net
Subject: [3090] Propagation
Message-ID: <199610291338.IAA16655@garcon.qtm.net>

Hi Gang

Have read several posts about "so-called" dead bands. As many
discover over time, the bands ars seldom, if ever, dead. I submitt
tha all bands are open all the time. The secret is finding out " to
where". I learned long ago to call CQ when I don't hear signals and
am still suprised occasionally with the stations I get. I worked many
a contact on 6 and 2 when everyone else said they were dead.

Don't hesitate to call a few CQs when you don't hear signals. If
everyone is listening there will be no activity.

I have been on this list foe a while now and have enjoyed it. I hope
to get more active here and on the air as we move into winter and
away form the fair weather activities outside.

72/73..........de..........Al......W8LRM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Dennis Marandos <k1lgq@dennis.mv.com>
Subject: [3153] QRP Afield 1996 - FINAL RESULTS
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961029234550.0030969c@pop.mv.net>

>Hi Dennis,
>
>Here are the final results for the 1996 version of QRP Afield--a good year!
>Would you please post the results to the list? Thanks.
>
>Some highlights:

>
>* A new winner. Bob Stolzle, AC5AM "smoked 'em." 17,400 points. More
>than 3,000 points more than the second place finisher (and first place
>finisher in 1994 and 1995) the Meriden, CT ARC. Bob operated from Grant
>Parish, LA using .95W. Super job.
>
>* Point totals for everyone were MUCH higher than in past years.
>Conditions were probably a bit better than prior years, but we also had more
>entrants. Looks like the contest is really catching on.
>
>* A significant number of the entries were from non-New England states and
>were non-QRPNE members. As a matter of fact, the only New England station
>in the top ten was the Meriden, CT club. I think that's healthy, but the
>gauntlet has been thrown down for next year.
>
>*   Speaking of next year, the 1997 version of QRP Afield will be held on
>the third Saturday of September (that's September 20th). So mark your
>calendars NOW. There may be some minor changes, but expect the same basic
>times/rules.
>
>I will have the plaque/certs done soon and in the mail. In the meantime,
>here are the FINAL RESULTS:
>
>----------------------
>
>
>QRP Afield--1996
>
>FINAL RESULTS
>
>
>Score   Name   Call NE # Pwr Location
>
>17,360 Robert "Bob" Stolzle   AC5AM   lo/field Grant Parish, LA
>*************************
>14,040 Meriden, CT ARC   W1NRG   300 hi/field Godek's Farm, Wallingford, CT
>11352   Peter Beedlow   NN9K hi/field Nr. I-80, 280, and 74, Henry Cty, IL
>9472   Owen "OJ" Quarles   WA1YIA   hi/field Ranch of KB5YVT, Bedis, TX
>9200   Pete Meier   WK8S 292lo/field   Indep. Oaks Park, Clarkston, MI
>8680   Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY 440 hi/field YVT Ranch, Bedis, TX
>7424   Bob Kellogg   AE4IC   hi/field Backyard, Greensboro, NC
>7040   Mike Pulley   WB4ZKA 241   lo/field Christopher Creek, Payson, AZ
>6960   Brian Kassel   W5VBO   hi/field Backyard, Peoria, AZ
>6820   Ken Newman   N2CQ 458 hi/field Gloucester Cty 4H Grounds, Mullica,
NJ
>*************************
>6232   Glenn Pladsen   AE0Q/N0TBM   lo/field National Forest, Laramie, WY
>6048   Paul Harden   NA5N/AB5OU   hi/field Manzano Mtns., nr Torreon, NM

>4140 Marshall Emm AA0XI hi/field Daniels Park, Denver, CO
>3584 Craig LaBarge WB3GCK lo/field White Clay Creek Park, Newark, DE
>3024 Russ Carpenter AA7QU hi/field Backpacking in Oregon Cascades
>2604 John Perrone NI0A hi/field Frontenac Park, MN
>2560 Cam Hartford N6GA lo/field San Gabriel Mtns., East of LA, CA
>2520 Mark Adams N2VPK 376 hi/field Hunting camp, Bethany, NY
>2380 Brian Keegan KF2HC 274 hi/field Backyard
>1296 Dennis Marandos K1LGQ 151 hi/field Greeley Park, Nashua, NH
>1140 Dave Benson NN1G 6 hi/field Nat. Forest nr Arlington, VT
>1140 Tim Ahrens WA5VQK hi/field Woods, SW of Austin, TX
>1024 Walt Thomas WA4KAC lo/perm Home, Laurel, MD
>684 Monte "Ron" Stark KV7Y hi/perm Home, New Washoe City, NV
>680 Kevin Glynn KB2TEO hi/field Hamilton Army Base, Brooklyn, NY
>525 Larry Mergen K0LWV hi/perm Home, Raymore, MO
>520 Ernest Gregoire AA1IK 202 hi/perm Home, Canaan, NH
>480 Anthony Drumm AA0SM hi/field Park, Rochester, MN
>472 Chet Bowles AA1EX 58 hi/perm Univ. of MT station, Missoula, MT
>468 John "Jack" Hotchkiss W7CNL hi/perm Home, Boise, ID
>336 Mal Goosey AA7WT hi/perm Home, Bozeman, MT
>308 Dean Marzocca N2TNN hi/field Sandy Hook, NJ
>200 Jim Stone WB8NYV hi/perm Home, Detroit, MI
>126 John Elliott VE6ZAA hi/perm Home, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
>115 Jim Fitton W1FMR 1 hi/field Under pier, Saco, ME
>70 JackDougherty KB0PJE hi/perm Home, Houston, TX
>16 Bruce Parkes KA2ZGW hi/perm Home, San Antonio, TX
>
>Plaque awarded to first place finisher. Certificates awarded to next nine
>finishers.
>*--*
>| CHESTER S. BOWLES | Education, rehabilitation, housing, |
>| Vice President | and managed care for children, |
>| Crotched Mountain Foundation | adolescents and adults with physical |
>| One Verney Drive | and developmental challenges. |
>| Greenfield, NH 03047 | http://www.cmf.org |
>| 603.547.3311 ext. 404 | bowles@cmf.org |
>*--*
>
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996

From: Peter Beedlow <nn9k@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [3081] QRP'ers in Rosario
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961028182727.316731c0@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

Might there be anyone subscribed to this list in or around Rosario, Argentina??

I plan to be in Rosario the week of 18 November and would enjoy meeting some fellow hams interested in QRP. Also in finding a station in Rosario that needs another op for the CQWW CW test the following weekend--I will extend my trip!!

Please reply to nn9k@worldnet.att.net or pb13128@deere.com.

Thanks,
Peter Beedlow, NN9K
EN41TL (IL) QRP-L #5
nn9k@worldnet.att.net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [3163] QRP-L digest 527
Message-ID: <961030042644_70731.722_EHM96-1@CompuServe.COM>

All:

Saw interesting material after linking to "Sparky" from "boatanchors", namely at http://rampages.onramp.net/~rangerj/

This webpage concerns both the San Francisco California and Mobile Alabama marine shore longwave and HF stations and their regular broadcasts of the _American Radio Free Press_. Namely the weekly newspaper of the radio ops division of the Intnl Longshoresmen Union which goes out to sea on CW at 05:17 Sunday (UTC). Webpage holds the few recent broadcasts up until Sparky once again packed up his sea bag.

My question is about the closing prosigns/abbreviations shown at the end of each broadcast: BV OM VA

More precisely, my question is what does BV mean?

Thanks,

DAN KN6TM

70731.722@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "George T. Pasek Jr." <pasek001@maroon.tc.umn.edu>
Subject: [3087] QRPp ?
Message-ID: <40969.pasek001@maroon.tc.umn.edu>

OK, if QRP is considered to be 5 watts or less... Is QRPp 1 watt or less,
or Less Than 1 watt? How about QRPpp ?

    QRP =   1 - 5 watts
    QRPp =   .1 - .999 watts
    QRPpp = <.099 watts

??

de George
WD0AKZ

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "John Kirk, VE6XT" <jakirk@freenet.calgary.ab.ca>
Subject: [3156] Re;Crystal Bank
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.93.961029174955.26708A-100000@srv1.freenet.calgary.ab.ca>

Hi:
I did a survey on here about 6 months ago, not so much for a crystal bank,
but an online database of who has what, and the end result was that there
didn't seem to be enough interst to warrant creating such a beast.

While I'm on here: anybody got any 14.833 or thereabouts in HC18 or HC25
holders?

0.73
John

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
Subject: [3171] RF Amp, spec. analyzer results
Message-ID: <3276d73d.pandora@pandora.lugs.org.sg>

Hi Gang,

     For those who are interested ... the amplifier in question tested on a spectrum analyzer show the works spurs more than 60dB down on the fundamental. I suppose that is good news :-)

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel
--
*------------+--------------------------------------+
Daniel Wee	daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg
9V1ZV	danwee@singnet.com.sg
QRP-L #667	daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org
+------------+--------------------------------------+

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Toshiyuki Ando <ando@oecj.co.jp>
Subject: [3085] Rig wanted
Message-ID: <3275F716.6DFB@oecj.co.jp>

Hi Folks,

I am looking for rigs like HW9, Sierra, TenTec Argonaut.
QRP CW(or SSB too) superhet rigs with S-meter/narrow filter.

If you have one, please let me know.

Toshi Ando
JK1APL
ando@oecj.co.jp

--

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: WD6BOR@aol.com
Subject: [3130] SLV done, will be at Norcal meeting
Message-ID: <961029143953_1214243990@emout17.mail.aol.com>

I've got the St. Louis Vertical finished and because 1.25" hardwood dowel comes in four foot lengths, have a couple of extra bases that I'll bring to the Norcal meeting this Sunday.

I found the Radio Shack twin lead specified, 15-004, is 24 gage in 40 foot

rolls. To get the 50 foot length for the coil I bought the 22 gage 15-1153. After winding the coil I had less than a foot left, so I assume that I used 49 feet. Instead of the connector and twin lead to the top, I used Vern Wright's idea and made the top 16 feet a single conductor. I also soldered a small ring lug on the end of the wire and slip that over the top of the pole instead of using a fishing swivel. I did the radial ground ring a little differently, replacing a gold trim ring on the base of the pole with a couple wraps of 14 gage solid wire with small attaching loops bent and soldered as part of the ring.

The dowel and spikes were easy to find at the local lumber/hardware store, but I had my brother chuck the 12" dowels in a lathe to get the holes bored straight and centered. I recommend to others that you ask around and find someone with a lathe because the results are much better than I could have achieved with a hand drill and bench vice. After cutting the heads off the spikes and grinding a small taper on the head to help starting into the hole, I placed the point of the spike on a block of wood and easily drove the dowel on.

I've just finished the SLV now, so haven't had a chance to put it out in the back yard and run the tuner and analyzer on it. (It's raining right now). I haven't taped the entire length of the twin lead coil yet because I am considering tapping it to experiment with finding some resonate points for the different bands. After that, I plan to follow Vern's lead and put shrink tubing over the coil. He sure made a beautiful job of his SLV.

I'm already planning on taking this out to Field Day next year, and may even set it up for a demonstration at a club meeting. What a great idea this antenna is. My congradulations to the St. Louis club for another sucessful project!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: cooper@gmpvt.com (Tom Cooper)
Subject: [3143] SS QRP
Message-ID: <199610292058.PAA07698@web.gmpvt.com>

Chuck and others have been talking up the Sweepstakes, and
I also want to encourage EVERYONE to get on and make at least a
few QSO's. Your code speed will really improve and the more QRP
entries there are the better.

This is not one of those "599" contests, but one with a real
exchange of information. If you were my QSO number 101, I would
send "101 Q WA1GUV 61 VT", meaning I am running 5 watts or less,
was first licensed in 1961 and I'm in the Vermont section.

Sunday afternoon is an excellent time for casual operation on 40M.
Things slow down then and making contacts is a lot easier.

Even if you normally can't stand contests, you will probably like the
Sweepstakes. I'm hooked!

GL and CUL,

Tom WA1GUV

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3094] SS TX Challenge
Message-ID: <199610291436.OAA19458@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

OK, some of you want it and now you're going to get it!!

Jack Bryant, W5TFB, and Chuck Adams, K5FO, will be on during
the SS contest so we'll take on another or any pair of QRPers
from any or all states. Pair must be in same state and within
150 air miles of each other. Combined score of each pair added
and the highest total wins.

This is not recommended for the weak of heart.

I made a mistake this morning and looked up the results from
last years SS. The North Texas Contest Club, not to be confused
with the North Texas QRP Club, gave me a goal this year. I'm in
big trouble. Really big trouble.

But I've got some good news. Smallest tower I will be using
is 85' and the tallest somewhere near 110'. :-) Good news
for me, bad news for KU7Y. :-)   ;-) I'll be around 4W
for this one. ERP is a little more than that with all beams
on all bands. I will have witnesses to this one. Film at 11.

good luck guys (you're gonna need it) let the games begin
: Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) WAS 40m/30m/20m=49/49/50
: EMPS QSOs=3 STATES(w/c)=3/2 DX=0 : MO TN OK

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>
Subject: [3120] test
Message-ID: <199610291817.SAA17634@mail.enterprise.net>

test - sorry havin' probs!
Frank G3YCC
QRP Web pages: http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: David.Reid@asml.nl (David Reid)
Subject: [3102] The Micro-beacon - have you received the info?
Message-ID: <199610291542.QAA17055@wspub002.asml.nl>

Hi Guys,

To all those who asked about a micro-beacon - you should have
received a private email regarding the messages and my address.

In case I missed someone - please get in touch before the weekend.

(I'm away all next week) so email will pile up or you will get a 'holiday'
message. (if I can get it to work HI.)

best 73 fer nw es gud dx qrp

DE Dave PA/G0BZF
GQRP 3677.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Jeffrey M. Poulin" <jpoulin@erols.com>
Subject: [3160] to the Tues. Fox
Message-ID: <199610300356.WAA01720@smtp1.erols.com>

Neil: Were you by any chance transmitting on 7.118.8 MHz between 10:10 and
10:20 PM (Eastern Time). I heard some very faint code: too soft to copy but
recognizable as code. If not, oh well. If so, your signal was making it to
the East coast. Just curious.

Keff/KF4JSV QRP-L #743

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: jdenison@aisp.net (JOEL DENISON)
Subject: [3111] tv twin lead
Message-ID: <19961029172010832.AAA159@slip1.ts-f-merrill.caps.maine.edu>

I read this in the list today:

The thing to do would be to rip out the coax and replace it with 450-ohm ladder line, or a low-loss 300 ohm TV ribbon.

I have been wonering if tv twin lead would work effectively at 5 watts. Would some of the radio shack stuff work? any specific name (type)?
I'm using rg58 for it's low weight. I used 450 ladder line at this year's field day and it sure tuned easier.
If the twin lead is not that hot of a solution, anyone got the address of someone I can order the ladder line from.
Thanks Joel
Bye now
God Bless
Joel

WA5CVM Qrp ARCI #4066 NE-QRP #476 QRP-L #765
Joel Denison
81 High street Horiz. Loop up 30ft Inverted V up 33ft.
Farmington, Maine 04938
jdenison@aisp.net QRP PLUS 5w SSB & CW

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "John Shuster" <jshuster@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [3123] Vanity Update Tue 10:30 am PDT
Message-ID: <199610291846.KAA13471@dfw-ix3.ix.netcom.com>

To All:

Last Friday, I read on the ARRL home page that VC's could be issued "as soon as today", (meaning last Friday). No bananas.

It's Tuesday morning, and I just called the FCC. Vanessa told me that "if everything goes OK", which leads me to think that they're going to do a computer dry run to see if it works, "vanity calls could be issued at the end of the week." Emphasis on the "could".

So best case by Friday, right?

John

++
Father John Shuster, Married Roman Catholic Priest jshuster@ix.netcom.com
Need A Priest? Rent-A-Priest! 1-800-PRIEST-9 A Free Referral Service
At the foot of the Olympics in little Port Orchard, WA
KC7CKP AE ARCI 8951 QRP-L 554 ARS 36 NW QRP 346 WWDXC ARRL
++

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: kb0rol@juno.com (Bradley L Mugleston)
Subject: [3075] W0CH where are you
Message-ID: <19961028.224655.10215.0.kb0rol@juno.com>

Dave,
I got my QSL returned - bad address. Did you move?

Thanks for the band width.

Brad Mugleston - KB0ROL
Colorado QRP Club # 170, QRP-L #316, ARRL
QTH - Aurora, CO - DM79oq
KB0ROL@JUNO.COM
BMUG@GWL.COM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>
Subject: [3122] Wanted: CW xtl for Mizuho 14mhz
Message-ID: <199610291826.SAA18739@mail.enterprise.net>

Wanted a CW xtl for a Mizuho 14mhz hand held, or source.
Thanks.
Frank G3YCC
QRP Web pages: http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [3170] White Mountain Progress Grp 5
Message-ID: <961030000302_1612435520@emout12.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

I am please to report completion of the fifth assembly group of the White Mountain. Constuction so far has been dead easy. Like SWL's other kits, it is set up for easy construction, and you don't need to be an engineer.

Now, having said all that, this isn't absolutely fool proof. F'rinstance by working on a workday night at 1 am, this fool ended the session by setting the circuit board down live with power on top of a bare alligator clip. As they say over on the Brooklyn side of Long Island, "I should of stood in bed." Don't try this at home! I was lucky. I blew a switching transistor (2N3906) which was cheap and I have a lot of them. Thank goodness, it is ready for the next step.
   So if you are a fool like me, expect to clean up after yourself! Any fool knows not to be soldering and stuff into the late hours. I know, you never get so involved in a building project that you just have to keep going. Not you, you're no fool. Sure.

Only two groups to finish and then I have to get to cabinetry and await the arrival of the KC2.

72,

Preston WJ2V

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Jerry Meng <renbo@mail.chinapro.net.cn>
Subject: [3104] Who knows the price of AD7008 DDS chip?
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19961029163522.00674c98@mail.chinapro.net.cn>

Hi There,
      Recently I am very interested in DDS, but I really don't know how much does the AD7008 DDS chip cost. Plan to build a multiband DDS QRP:)

73 de BA1FB Jerry Meng
Beijing China

Email:renbo@mail.chinapro.net.cn

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [3092] Re: 120VDC on Soldering Iron
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.961029060823.9350B-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

On Mon, 28 Oct 1996, George Gingell wrote:

> Next time, just come over and borrow my Butane Soldering Torch. :^)

Last time I used my Butane Soldering Iron, it became a big ball of
flame in my hand!

I was in the back of the building our little pagging system is in and
my partner was about 3' away, between me and the door.

Now I haven't reached the ripe old age of 60 by being too slow so.....

I just "flipped" the ball of fire to Tim and said, in my most calm
voice, "Put that fire out, will you Tim?"......

If any of you have never had a chance to see a grown man dance a
real fire dance inside a 4' X 8' shed, your are missing one of the
best sights around!

But we both survived as did the building and equipment.

The above is a true story and I have not, and never will, replace
that Butane Soldering Iron!!!

73, Ron,

.........KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu...........Washoe Lake, Nevada....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [3105] Re: 80 meters of a 40 meter dipole
Message-ID: <961029113838_134023466@emout07.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-10-28 11:52:01 EST, jpoulin@erols.com (Jeffrey M.
Poulin) writes:

<< I am getting an 80 meter module for my Ten-Tec Scout. At the moment my
only
 antenna is a 40 meter dipole. Should I be able to use the Ten-Tec 291
 antenna tuner to make the dipole usable on 80 meters? Or should I plan on
 assembling a separate antenna? (At the moment I can only use the Novice
 portion of the band. Something I hope to change in the near future.) Any
 advice would be appreciated.

 Thanks,

>>

Technically, it is possible to "force-feed" a forty meter dipole on 80 through the coax but that would be a flaky way to go; lossy and inefficient.

The thing to do would be to rip out the coax and replace it with 450-ohm ladder line, or a low-loss 300 ohm TV ribbon. That will work on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 (11) and 10 meters.... and maybe 160 with reduced efficiency. You need a good tuner with a balun.

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Dale LeDoux <dledoux@laci.net>
Subject: [3161] Re: 80 mtr antenna help
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961029215810.1c3f2fa4@laci.net>

At 02:28 10/30/96 +0000, you wrote:
> I want to put up a 80 mtr antenna for SS this weekend. My problem
>is no tall supports. I have one tree in backyard about 35 ft high. Am
>thinking of a inverted L but invite any suggestions. There is some big talk
>which is getting me fired up, beware. Remember unassisted means no peeking
>at your local packet cluster, keep if fair.
>
>Thanks and gl SS, Jim WA0RPI(for a few more days)
>
Jim--
Go for it! 35 feet is better than no feet. A low, non-textbook inverted L is better than loading the aluminum windowframe. As a general rule with antennae: Higher is better, longer is better, and anything is better than nothing. I worked every continent qrp with a 40 meter dipole supported in the middle at twelve feet by an oak tree, and that was its highest point...

72...

Dale LeDoux
Bath Electrical Systems
Power Specialists -- 480 V to 230 KV
KD5QI -- QRP-L #602

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996

From: Cecil A Moore <Cecil_A_Moore@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Subject: [3098] Re: 9:1 TLT Baluns

>Can anyone on this list tell me how to wind 1:9
>transmission line transformers? Daniel Wee

Hi Daniel, are you absolutely sure you need a 9:1
balun? The only time you would need one is if you
are feeding a 450 ohm antenna with 450 ohm ladder-
line.

If you are like most of us, feeding a non-resonant
length antenna with 450 ohm ladder-line, you do
not need a 9:1. For instance, with an SWR of 10:1,
your resistance can vary between 45 ohms and 4500
ohms with varying degrees of reactance. Hardly any
balun has enough inductance to work with 4500 ohms
on 75m and you sure don't want to put 45 ohms through
a 9:1 balun, resulting in 5 ohms to match.

73, Cecil, W6RCA, OOTC (not speaking for my employer)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: kt3a@juno.com (Cameron CR Bailey)
Subject: [3079] Re: ANT: Loop in Attic
Message-ID: <19961028.221658.8183.3.kt3a@juno.com>

On Mon, 28 Oct 1996 09:19:04 -0600 jdenison@aisp.net (JOEL DENISON)
writes:
>>
>>
>>BTW, I did not measure ANYTHING. I just put it in.
>>I found it is resonant at 7.060 Mhz!!! Z= 60 ohms
>>through the tuners balun.
>>I'm never gonna measure again. ;-)
>>
>>72,
>>Cameron CR Bailey, KT3A <><
>>ARCI Board member, QRP-L 7
>>QRP Society of Central Pennsylvania
>
>
>   What have you worked with it? Better or worse than the dipole?
>Was
>it worth the effort? Any DX?
>Bye now

>God Bless
>Joel
>
>WA5CVM

Well Joel,

The dipole did not work anything. I got a few ??? from
the foxes, but the bands and condx for them has been
the pits anyway. Not to mention the pileups!
I've been calling CQ on occasion for the past 2 days and
nothing. Now, with the new loop.....
Tonight, I answered WB4ONR in Gainesville, FL.
He gave me a 599 and we QSO'd for 30 minutes.
Thank goodness. I thought my roof was eating up
my 2 watts. It really works on receive quite well.
I've heard 6's and 0's the last two evenings. Daytime
I 've heard plenty of 2's and some 8's. Even heard
Ernie, W8MVN tonight with a weak CQ, he must have had his
antenna pointing the other way.

72,
Cameron CR Bailey, KT3A <><
ARCI Board member, QRP-L 7
QRP Society of Central Pennsylvania

>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>
Subject: [3118] RE: Computers and Ham Radio
Message-ID: <01BBC592.D6B98480@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>

On Tuesday, October 29, 1996 11:23 AM, Larry V East[SMTP:lve1@inel.gov] wrote:
>Let me preface this by stating that I have obtained much of my income by
>developing software of one sort of another over the past 25 years or so.
>
>However -- I do believe that many folks get completely carried away with
>computers. For example, I can't for the life of me figure out why someone
>would sit in front of a computer with a picture of a transceiver's knobs and
>switches on the screen and use the mouse/keyboard to tune the receiver that
>is sitting right next to the computer! I can see the need for something like
>this to control a remotely located instrument (been there, done that), but

>geezz, folks, computer control of a device sitting next to the computer,
>when the device has nice knobs and switches and pretty dials? Get a life!
>
>What does this have to do with QRP? Absolutely nothing; just felt like
>bitchin about something... Ah! I feel all better now! :-) :-)
>
>Back to writing the @!$ software documentation...
>
>
>

Well, most hams have a bit of engineer blood in them, and...

Ego-wise, two things are important to engineers:
     *   How smart they are.
     *   How many cool devices they own.

To the engineer, all matter in the universe can be placed
into one of two categories:

(1) things that need to be fixed, and
(2) things that will need to be fixed after you've had a
    few minutes to play with them.

Besides, if it ain't broke then it doesn't have enough
features yet!

Kevin, WB5RUE

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [3147] Re: CQ WW DX Contest
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.961029131224.10920A-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

On Tue, 29 Oct 1996, Steve Slavsky wrote:

> ..... but I can't figure out how to break through - especially
> on 20 meters. That band was solid stations with no way a QRP sig could
> get through.

Hi Steve,

Just forget your are running QRP and jump in and work em'!

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Bruce Robertson <brucerob@chass.utoronto.ca>
Subject: [3162] Re: CQ WW DX Contest
Message-ID: <Pine.SGI.3.95.961029230513.3821A-100000@chass.utoronto.ca>

Like Steve, I too had a terrible time with ssb this past weekend. My station set-up is not ideal: 6 foot whips on a tenth floor balcony. But I can work Europe on QRP CW, though rarely (20m, 30m). Anyway, during the weekend I listened around for about an hour total and tried calling all sorts of starions on 20m WITH 100 WATTS! Results: one qso into Florida or some such thing.

Given that the bands are pretty busy and SSB ops like armchair copy, there still is a pretty big gap between these two modes, eh? I've heard it said that it's about 10 dB, and I'm starting to think it's more like 13 dB.

I operate very little SSB, so maybe I'm missing something - any qrp SSB suggestions? I ask becuase I'm planning on a 20m bike mobile ssb rig built from the miniR2 kit.

72, VE3UWL

Bruce G. Robertson Dept. of Classics, U. of T.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Paul Erickson <paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>
Subject: [3167] Re: CQ WW DX Contest
Message-ID: <9610300450.AA13732@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>

Hi Steve, Bruce et al

While I am certainly not an expert on qrp ssb I do have a few ideas that I would appreciate some feedback on. I put in a token effort this weekend as well. Put in a few hours here and there and came up with 24 q's. I was using my qrp plus (original version) which we all know does not put out more than about 1.5 watts on ssb. I was pleased to work Mexico, Alaska, and Hawaii, using my verticals. Obviously,

the better your antennas the more effective you will be. I also believe
that microphone selection and processing deserve close attention.

When I use my heil mic into my cranked down ts930 I am far more effective
than I am with the qrp+ and it's issued mic. (My not using the 930 this
contest might give you a clue as to how seriously I was taking the whole
thing.) The 930 is known for having a very effective processor, and I am
thinking of getting a ten tec kit to give the audio on the qrp+ some
more oomph. The recent article in QRPp on microphones also looks interesting
wonder if there is a circuit board available???

When tuning the bands, I know that if the station isn't at least s9 he/she
will not hear me.

QRP with good antennas can be suprizingly effective. The top qrp score I
have seen so far was posted by a K1 (can't remember the rest of the call).
He had several hundred q's, and we on the west coast would kill to have
half of the east coast's multipliers.... but that is another discussion.

cheers, Paul
ve7cqk
email: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca

 or

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [3136] Re: Daylight Savings
Message-ID: <199610292021.NAA26153@primenet.com>

Howdy All,

< Various tales of woe related to resetting clocks deleted >

Of course you could always do what Arizona and a few other
select areas of fed-up folks in the U.S. did - eliminate
the clock change. After all, the sun didn't change its
schedule. :-)

Never understood the need to interrupt an entire nation's
circadian rhythm. Not unless it's a good reason like 24-hour
CW Sweepstakes operations. Which reminds me, the regional
Jolt Cola distributor reported making a large shipment to
an unnamed QRPer in the vicinity of Washoe Lake, Nevada.

Hope Chuck knows what he's gotten himself into. :-)

Cheers de KC7NEV,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Dave.Ackrill@Westwood45.powergen.co.uk
Subject: [3078] RE: Daylight Savings Time
Message-ID: <961029080420Z*/G=Dave/S=Ackrill/O=Westwood45/PRMD=POWERGEN/ADMD=CWMAIL/C=GB/@MHS>

> I used to have a watch that did what Kevin wanted and could have one time showing but have another time set at the touch of a button.
>
> I set the main display to "local" time (UTC in Winter, BST in Summer - British Summer Time or Daylight Saving) then on scrolling through the displays I would get to a section where the main setting was UTC and then you could move backwards and forwards an hour at a time to the equivalent time in other parts of the world.
>
> So, I had UTC for Amateur Radio logging and I could scroll back to local when finished.
>
> My watch was a Casio, but I would guess many other watch makers have similar systems.
>
> BTW, I saw an article in SPRAT a few years ago where someone used an old digital watch module as an oscillator for a QRP rig. Did anyone have a go at it, and did it work? It might be a fun project to try one day!
>
> Cheers de Dave (G0DJA)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [3093] RE: Daylight Savings Time
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.961029062058.9350E-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

Hi All,

Well, my answere is the lazy mans way.....

I have two watches, both same make and model, one set to PDT
and the other to PSDT! All I gotta do is change watches!

(How I came to have two watches the same is a rather long
story.....but after having them, what to do with them was
easy)

73, Ron,

.........KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu...........Washoe Lake, Nevada....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Doug Henry <dhenry@SIRNet.mb.ca>
Subject: [3154] RE: Daylight Savings Time
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.961029180041.11286B-100000@sir1.sirnet.mb.ca>

W95 resets your computer clock and then prompts you for approval. I would
have forgotten otherwise. Doug VE4STD

On Mon, 28 Oct 1996, Kevin Muenzler wrote:

> On Monday, October 28, 1996 8:20 AM, David D. Meacham[SMTP:ddm@datatamers.com]
wrote:
> >
> >
> >Phil & the Gang,
> >I, for one, wish that time changes could be stopped entirely! Not only
> >does one have to reset clocks, but one's body takes several days to
> >adjust to the new time. Since people seem to like DST, how about DST ALL
> >YEAR?
> >72, Dave, W6EMD
> >p.s. please excuse the bandwidth...not exactly QRP related.
> >
> >
> >
> >
>
> I've always wondered why someone doesn't invent a watch/clock
> with a daylight savings time button on it. Just push the button
> and it automatically adjusts for you. My grandmother equated
> daylight savings with cutting a foot from one end of a bed sheet
> and sewing it on the other end.
>

> Kevin
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>
Subject: [3119] RE: Daylight Time...
Message-ID: <01BBC592.F5A8D440@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>

On Tuesday, October 29, 1996 10:56 AM, Larry V East[SMTP:lve1@inel.gov] wrote:
>>
>>I've always wondered why someone doesn't invent a watch/clock
>>with a daylight savings time button on it. Just push the button
>>and it automatically adjusts for you.
>>
>Gee, my MFJ "World Clock" has just such a button! So did the Casio (sp?)
>"Nerd Watch" that was popular a few years back...
>
>My UNIX workstation also knows all about daylight and standard time changes.
>
>Ya just gotta keep up with technology! :-) :-)
>

My Win 95 machine notifies me when it makes the change.
Most of our NT servers and UNIX machines are set to ASK
first. We have some time-critical stuff that might get
done twice. I guess I've been "on the farm" too long.

Kevin, WB5RUE

things never seem as bad as they really are...
I am Voltohm of Borg! Resistance is E/I, Power is EI,
you will be attenuated!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [3084] Re: dipole with ladderline
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961029072213.26637G-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Suggest NOT using a 4:1 balun at the house edge. With the ladder line,

you will not know what the R +/- jX is at the balun point without some heady measurements. Best to use a line isolator (as Radio Works calls them--really a variant of the W2DU ferrite-around-coax choke "balun"--1:1) at the house entry point. 20' of coax will not show any great loss, especially at the lower HF bands, even with 10:1 SWR, and it keeps RF out of stuff. Did some testing of several 4:1 designs with a G5RV where the parallel line entered the house--all showed heat with 100 watts and no clear relationship between the Zs on either side--meaning they are lossy with reactance of significance. The homebrew W2DU choke worked just fine.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Cecil A Moore <Cecil_A_Moore@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Subject: [3101] Re: dipole with ladderline

>From: Denton Larson <dlarson@ic.waseca.mn.us>
>I have a quick question from those with experience;
>I'm prepairing to install a dipole fed with 450 ohm
>ladderline. It's not real easy to run the ladderline
>into the house, so I plan to use a 4:1 balunat my cable
>entrance and then feed it with 20 feet or so of RG-8.

Hi Denton, I assume you have no idea what impedances
the balun will see. If you don't, this is not an
optimum configuration. With a 10:1 SWR, the balun may
see 45 ohms, 4500 ohms, 90+j450, 90-j450 or anything
in between. Does it make sense to take 45 ohms down to
11 ohms? Does your balun have enough inductance to
handle a 4500 ohm load?

Ideally, you should use a balanced tuning system and
kill the reflections before they get to the balun.

73, Cecil, W6RCA, OOTC (not speaking for my employer)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Roy Boggs <rboggs@pcc-uky.campus.mci.net>
Subject: [3128] RE: dipole with ladderline
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19961029190613.00722d14@pcc-uky.campus.mci.net>

I am confused (really) about the use of 4:1 baluns with 450 ohm ladderline:

<L.B Cebik>
Suggest NOT using a 4:1 balun at the house edge. With the ladder line, you will not know what the R +/- jX is at the balun point without some heady measurements.

<Cecil Moore>
.. I assume you have no idea what impedances the balun will see. If you don't, this is not an optimum configuration.....
Ideally, you should use a balanced tuning system and kill the reflections before they get to the balun.

<Claton Cadmus>
You don't need a 4:1 balun, any type of 1:1 current balun will work well.

<Paul Schaffenberger>
".....balun's inefficiency at high impedances <baluns being low impedance devices>

Guys,
  Like a sheep, I have gotten into the habit of thinking that if it used ladderline or twinlead...just pop a 4:1 balun on the end of it and it will work (blind faith).
  First I am not well read on the subject, but I see many tuner designs that use a 4:1 balun. Also many centerfed wire designs suggest using 4:1 baluns with 300/450 ohm feedline. Also, Press Jones (who supposedly consults regularly with Lew McCoy & Maxwell) is apparently not ready to cease recommending the 4:1 in a heavy duty voltage balun for multiband use (Way over my head!)
  Second, is the use/non-use based on the inefficiency of the balun (or put another way, is the inherent loss of a balun a tradeoff for it's ability to handle a wide variety of impedances), or because of the tuner design used? Or is it WHERE the balun is located(in the tuner or with a coax pigtail outside)?
  Since the range of impedances presented to the balun are unknown, can we do a check of impedances on the coax (after the balun) per band with an Autek RF-1 and it be accurate, and from this will it tell us safe zones (i.e. no super high or low Z)? Does that mean that many of the commercial designs are all wet, and if so what should we do to modify them (take out the baluns?)?
  My antenna is a 240' inv-vee fed with abt 225' of ladderline, a McCoy HD voltage balun, and 6' of RG213U to a Heath 2060A tuner. It is squirrely on 75/80M (highZ) but works beautiful on other bands. Is mine a good candidate to try a choke balun instead? And what about the St. Louis Tuner, MFJ 945, and Heath 2060A - should I try to retrofit them with a 1:1 balun? Same with the HB Pi network tuner. Just so that I am clear, is the 4:1 balun D.O.A for

tuned feeder non-resonant antennas? Thanks for any answers, and it is
wonderful having so many brilliant guys to ask.

72, Roy KE4KDT

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [3140] RE: dipole with ladderline
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961029151441.24878C-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

On Tue, 29 Oct 1996, Roy Boggs wrote:
>   My antenna is a 240' inv-vee fed with abt 225' of ladderline, a McCoy HD
> voltage balun, and 6' of RG213U to a Heath 2060A tuner. It is squirrely on
> 75/80M (highZ) but works beautiful on other bands. Is mine a good candidate
> to try a choke balun instead? And what about the St. Louis Tuner, MFJ 945,
> and Heath 2060A - should I try to retrofit them with a 1:1 balun? Same with
> the HB Pi network tuner. Just so that I am clear, is the 4:1 balun D.O.A for
> tuned feeder non-resonant antennas? Thanks for any answers, and it is
> wonderful having so many brilliant guys to ask.
>
> 72, Roy KE4KDT
>
Roy,

My suggestion to get less than squirrelly results on 80/75 has nothing to
do with the balun. If you cannot shorten the parallel line any, try
adding a section of line just before you get to the balun you are
presently using. That extra length of line may show a lower impedance,
especially reactance, thus making it possible for your present tuner to
effect a match. It is, in all events, the cheapest experiment to try.

Although different tuner designs--even different versions of the same type
of network--have somewhat different ranges of R +/- jX they can handle,
you should not immediately toss a bunch of money out on a new unit. since
the values of R and jX are changing continuously along any mismatched
line, adding line segments is the least expensive and still a quite
effective way to presenting the ATU with values it can handle.

A Balun is any device that converts a balanced transmission line into an
unbalanced one (or the other way around, if needed. There are numerous
designs for such units: the transmission line transformer in either
voltage or current mode, the coiled coax choke, and the W2DU
ferrite-around-the-coax choke are some of them. I have not read anything

both authoritative and comforting about transmission line transformers when the reactance is very high. Sevick, who has two books and many articles on the subject, advises users of transmission line transformers to get rid of the reactance on the load side of the balun. He tested the 4:1 voltage balun McCoy used in the original Ultimate transmatch and found that it performed better than he expected, although Sevick generally favors current balun designs for transmission line transformers. (For a very brief introduction to transmission line transformers and how they differ from ordinary transformers, see Chapter 6, near the very end. Although brief, the introduction is based on Sevick's work. Prior to the '95 edition, transmission line transformer info in the corresponding chapter was scant and, according to Sevick, not reliable.

However, if you have a 4:1 balun and it is performing well, do not make changes just because someone like me favors the W2DU design and its off-shoots. Your antenna appears to work well according to your account everywhere except 80/75, and the added line sections may help that problem. The explanatory discussion on this net can make one worry about everything in one's one station system. That's because folks like me talk too much and explain stuff to death sometimes.

If you figure out a way to make a significant improvement, are sure of how the stuff of the improvement will work, and have the time/money/energy to make the improvement, then go ahead and enjoy the experiment. For now, my suggestion is to gather more info and ideas, evaluate specs on anything you might someday buy, and pencil out several approaches to better systems. By Spring, you will be ready to build. Til then, enjoy operating.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@Spacestar.Net>
Subject: [3144] Re: dipole with ladderline
Message-ID: <199610292055.OAA10476@Spacestar.Net>

Hello Roy Boggs <rboggs@pcc-uky.campus.mci.net>

First I may have used the wrong term, I believe choke baluns and current baluns are the same. If not someone correct me. Actually we all gave you "right" answers. The best way to do this is to use a balanced tuner. If that is not practical then use a 1:1 "choke" balun. All you are trying to

do is keep RF off the coax shield and present a balanced feed to the antenna. By using the shortest coax you can and finishing the feedline run with balanced line you have reduced you losses the best you can.

> First I am not well read on the subject, but I see many tuner designs that
> use a 4:1 balun. Also many centerfed wire designs suggest using 4:1 baluns
> with 300/450 ohm feedline. Also, Press Jones (who supposedly consults
> regularly with Lew McCoy & Maxwell) is apparently not ready to cease
> recommending the 4:1 in a heavy duty voltage balun for multiband use (Way
> over my head!)

Much of what you have read about baluns is probably out of date, as well as many tuner designs. I had a voltage 4:1 balun in my system. I changed it to a coax wound choke balun and it seems to tune easier on some frequencies now. I've wanted to try a choke bead balun but haven't been able to find the round-to-it.

> Second, is the use/non-use based on the inefficiency of the balun (or put
> another way, is the inherent loss of a balun a tradeoff for it's ability to
> handle a wide variety of impedances), or because of the tuner design used?
> Or is it WHERE the balun is located(in the tuner or with a coax pigtail
> outside)?

Yes. A voltage balun is designed to work at a set impedance. i.e. 50 ohms to 200 ohms for a 4:1. Used at the output of a tuning network the input impedance can be just about anything to the balun. This can cause efficiency problems and core heating. A choke balun is simply an inductance high enough to force the output to appear balanced to the balanced feedline. It is much less problematic then a voltage balun.

On the other hand, your 4:1 voltage balun will do the job as long as your impedance excursions are not to wild and your power is low and/or the core is quite large. Voltage baluns of this type are low Q devices and are broadband in nature. Choke baluns are simply a bit better for this task.

> Since the range of impedances presented to the balun are unknown, can we
> do a check of impedances on the coax (after the balun) per band with an
> Autek RF-1 and it be accurate, and from this will it tell us safe zones
> (i.e. no super high or low Z)? Does that mean that many of the commercial
> designs are all wet, and if so what should we do to modify them (take

out
> the baluns?)?

Most commercial designs are built to work with coax. The internal baluns are there to make the tuner more useful(read higher sales). If you have a situation where you can directly connect the balanced line to the antenna tuner, rebuild one of your tuners into a balanced unit and skip the balun altogether.

>   My antenna is a 240' inv-vee fed with abt 225' of ladderline, a McCoy HD
> voltage balun, and 6' of RG213U to a Heath 2060A tuner. It is squirrely on
> 75/80M (highZ) but works beautiful on other bands. Is mine a good candidate
> to try a choke balun instead?

Yes a choke balun might help here but better would be to change the 240 foot length to something that will present a lesser impedance. Your antenna is real close to 2 fullwaves on 80/75 meters and your transmission line is about 4 half waves so it reflects perfectly your high feedpoint impedance.

> And what about the St. Louis Tuner, MFJ 945,
> and Heath 2060A - should I try to retrofit them with a 1:1 balun? Same with
> the HB Pi network tuner. Just so that I am clear, is the 4:1 balun D.O.A for
> tuned feeder non-resonant antennas? Thanks for any answers, and it is
> wonderful having so many brilliant guys to ask.
 These questions answer above, I hope.

Hope this Helps,

Claton Cadmus |73 de KA0GKC
Application Technologies Inc. |ARRL, QRP-ARCI, NorCal
Ph. (612)926-8886 |ARCC, MNQRP&HB Society
Fax (612)926-8545 |ka0gkc@ka0gkc.ampr.org
E-mail cla@spacestar.net |ka0gkc@wb0gdb.#stp.mn.us

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: John Meade/SMC <John.Meade@smc.com>
Subject: [3151] RE: dipole with ladderline
Message-ID: <9610300218.AA1872@notes.smc.com>

I think the best solution is to use the balun at the front end of the tuner. This way it always sees its favorite impedance. There is a nice balanced tuner circuit by Zach Lau (I think it is) in the red QRP compendium from the ARRL.

John W2XS.

========== On Tues, 29 Oct 1996 - rboggs wrote: ==========

cc:
From: rboggs @ pcc-uky.campus.mci.net (Roy Boggs) @ SMTPTEST
From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
Subject: RE: dipole with ladderline

I am confused (really) about the use of 4:1 baluns with 450 ohm ladderline:

<L.B Cebik>
Suggest NOT using a 4:1 balun at the house edge. With the ladder line, you will not know what the R +/- jX is at the balun point without some heady measurements.

<Cecil Moore>
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<Paul Schaffenberger>
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Guys,
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72, Roy KE4KDT

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Phil Wheeler <pcw12@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [3169] Re: dipole with ladderline
Message-ID: <3276E032.76FE@ix.netcom.com>

To a certain extent...what you are describing is Louis Varney's G5RV (shortened dipole, fed by a specific length of ladder line and then some 50 ohm coax).

I use one with success, using the AT in a TS-440S (soon to be replaced wiht a TS-570D, BTW).

Are the lengths all that critical: dunno! BUT -- with the G5RV I use no balun; direct 450 ohm ladder line to coax connection.

Phil w7uox

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: rob3ert@juno.com (Robert G. Parks)
Subject: [3076] Re: Fate,Altoids,God's will.

Message-ID: <19961028.194938.3638.2.rob3ert@juno.com>

On Mon, 28 Oct 1996 20:33:36 -0500 GREGOIRE@endor.com (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
writes:
>Hello Gang,
>
>It must be fate.
>
>There they were, right there in front of me at the deli. A stack of
>Altoids
>mints. There could only be one meaning to this sighting.
>
>God himself wants me to build a 49er.
>
>So I will.
>
>Now where can I get one? I looked in my old mail and didn't find any
>references. I will look in the archives if one of you kind souls will
>point me to the right area.
>
>Thanks
>
>de AA1IK   N.E.-QRP-C. #202   (Lead by example, It is better
>to   )
>   QRP-L member #95   (pull a string than it is to
>push it.)
>Ernie Gregoire   FISTS   #2644
>RR 1 Box 221
>Canaan, NH. 03741
>
>New England QRP Club, information
>available on request by sending me a
>
> S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.
>
>e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
>packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA
>
Ernie,

If you're on the 'net, go to: http://www.fix.net/~parker/40-9er.html

Should give you all the info.

72/73

Bob Parks

K6AEC
QRP-L#630
Norcal #1771

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: rob3ert@juno.com (Robert G. Parks)
Subject: [3077] Re: Fate,Altoids,God's will.
Message-ID: <19961028.200126.3638.3.rob3ert@juno.com>

On Mon, 28 Oct 1996 20:33:36 -0500 GREGOIRE@endor.com (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
writes:
>Hello Gang,
>
>It must be fate.
>
>There they were, right there in front of me at the deli. A stack of
>Altoids
>mints. There could only be one meaning to this sighting.
>
>God himself wants me to build a 49er.
>
>So I will.
>
>Now where can I get one? I looked in my old mail and didn't find any
>references. I will look in the archives if one of you kind souls will
>point me to the right area.
>
>Thanks
>
>de AA1IK   N.E.-QRP-C. #202   (Lead by example, It is better
>to   )
>   QRP-L member #95   (pull a string than it is to
>push it.)
>Ernie Gregoire   FISTS   #2644
>RR 1 Box 221
>Canaan, NH. 03741
>
>New England QRP Club, information
>available on request by sending me a
>
> S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.
>

>e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
>packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA
>
Ernie,

Nothing like giving information that's wrong!!! Correct 'net address for the 40-9er is: http://www.fix.net/~jparker/40-9er.html

Sorry for the previous error.

72/73

Bob Parks
K6AEC
QRP-L #630
Norcal #1771

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: PChristensen@Continental.com
Subject: [3132] RE: FCC callsign database - frozen?
Message-ID:
<c=US%a=_%p=Continental%l=SEEXCH01-961029194650Z-7491@neexch01.continental.com>

I noticed this as well when I logged onto my PC at work this morning. Your assumption is probably correct in that the lack of any activity for the preceding 24 hours is the calm before the storm.

I wonder if all day one calls will actually be posted by the "Big 3" callsign servers? Are their any constraints that preclude the update of an unusually large change? Will the Commission's FTP site contain a single 'Zipped" file to extract from? What does any of this have to do with QRP?

-Paul, N9AZ (Soon to be W9??)

>----------
>From: Dana H. Myers[SMTP:myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM]
>Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 1996 1:53 PM
>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
>Subject: FCC callsign database - frozen?
>
>
>So, all you folks patiently waiting for your vanity calls, note

>that the FCC callsign database at the FCC ftp site has apparently
>not been updated in the last 24 hours (the daily zip file for
>yesterday contains no changes at all - this is unusual). Furthermore,
>the data files which contain the entire database are updated on a
>weekly basis, and should have been updated early yesterday - and
>they haven't been.
>
>This all makes me wonder if the database is undergoing some kind of
>massive update (i.e., processing 5000 vanity applications) and is
>therefore frozen. Please don't call the FCC consumer hotline and
>ask those poor people yet again when the calls will be issued - what
>can they say? The calls will be issued when the calls are issued.
>
>Dana KK6JQ
>Dana@Source.Net
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Sterling <slombard@primenet.com>
Subject: [3141] Re: grinding wheels
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.95.961029134335.1812A-100000@usr07.primenet.com>

So I guess the moral to the story is to try to avoid using a grinding
wheel if possible?

>I can sure vouch for that one! I've seen grinding wheels
>come apart because of the extra, unbalanced, mass placed
>upon them by grinding aluminum. You have to remember that
>these things are just a bunch of "sand" that has been
>glued together. At 3000+ RPM the G-forces are tremendous.
>It takes only a few grams of aluminum to cause one to
>crack and fly apart. As Phil stated the best tools for
>tooling aluminum are hand tools, usually non-power driven
>ones (sorry Mr. Binford).
>
>Kevin, WB5RUE

-Sterling W. Lombard (KB7JTZ)
 http://www.primenet.com/~slombard

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>
Subject: [3146] RE: grinding wheels
Message-ID: <01BBC5AA.BCFE1160@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>

On Tuesday, October 29, 1996 7:45 AM, Sterling[SMTP:slombard@primenet.com] wrote:
>So I guess the moral to the story is to try to avoid using a grinding
>wheel if possible?
>
>
>-Sterling W. Lombard (KB7JTZ)
> http://www.primenet.com/~slombard

Yes, this is correct. Don't use an electric (or 357 chevy) powered
grinding wheel. A Dremel (sp?) type tool is pretty safe if you
use a mask. The wheels are small and if they disintegrate they
won't cause too much damage if you are wearing protection.
However a large grinding wheel that may weigh several pounds
can go right through a face mask.

Kevin, WB5RUE

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Philip Karras <ke3fl@access.digex.net>
Subject: [3095] RE: HB: Want to buy new DMM! any suggestions?
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.94.961029100337.18036C-100000@access5.digex.net>

Sam,

I'd wait & save a bit more & get the RS 22-168 abt $130. This unit
has a bunch of stuff including a computer interface & 20 MHz counter.

I'm planning on this being my next DVM. Normal disclaimer, just a
satisfied customer of other items, not this one, yet.

72 & 73 de Phil KE3FL

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: rob3ert@juno.com (Robert G. Parks)
Subject: [3074] Re: HP2800/1N5711 Diodes
Message-ID: <19961028.202900.3638.4.rob3ert@juno.com>

On Mon, 28 Oct 1996 22:43:16 -0500 bachmann@ari.net writes:
>Good Evening,
>   Dan's Small Parts has a Double Balanced Mixer Kit that
>contains a
>hank of wire, two ferrite cores, and 4 matched HP2800/1N5711 Hot
>Carrier
>Diodes (and instructions). It costs $2. The phone number is
>406-258-2782.
> They have a website but I can't locate it. If it turns up, I'll pass
>it
>along. There may be a link to it on one of the QRP websites like
>http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn or http://www.fix.net/norcal.html .
>   I just got a mixer kit but I haven't had time to play with it
>yet.
>I have no connection with them, I'm just a satisfied customer. Hope
>this
>helps.
>
>73, Rich Bachmann, N3SLR
>
>
Rich,

Dan's 'net address is:
     http://www.fix.net/~jparker/dans.html

72/73
Bob Parks
K6AEC
QRP-L#630
Norcal#1771

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [3149] Re: IRF510 5w Amp
Message-ID: <961029171042_1481944999@emout13.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-10-29 11:03:17 EST, Dan_Tayloe-P26412@email.mot.com
(Dan Tayloe-P26412) writes:

<< Luke:

      I think how much power you can get out of IRF510 depends upon how much
      power you feed it. One of the ARRL publications (QRP book, red cover)

has an three band MOSFET cw transmitter which gets 12 to 15 watts output out of a single IRF510.

I use one of these as a final in my homebrew 40m xcvr. By varying the bias voltage on the gate and driving with about 50 mw (rough guess), I get 1.7 watts out with 12v.

By going to 24v, I get about 5.25 watts (!) out.

The input to the IRF510 is highly capacitive and is *not* at all a high impedance to RF. As the input voltage starts to go higher than the MOSFET threshold voltage and the drain voltage starts to fall on a MOSFET, the input C goes up *a lot*.

This effect is neat to watch with a scope as the driving power is kept constant and the gate bias is varied. At low bias voltages, input C is low, and the drive voltage is higher. At higher bias voltages, input C is much higher, and the driving voltage is smaller.

I vary the gate bias in order to vary the power output. I also key the gate bias along with the driver stage in order to get rid of any possible idle current and associated noise from the MOSFET while receiving.

For me, the 1.7 watts output (40m) is obtained with about 3.5 volts gate bias, and about 1 volt peak to peak of RF drive.

I am sure that driving a single device with a low impedance, high voltage source such as a 50 ohm, 1 watt (20v peak to peak) or 2 watt (28v peak to peak), you will be able to get *much* more than your desired 5 watts. More likely closer to the 12 to 15 watts discussed earlier. It will most likely be highly desirable to use an input attenuator to reduce the drive level to the IRF510.

And yes, I do find the IRF510 quite difficult to kill. However, I only get about 50% efficiency out of it. Driving it harder, you may do better.

Good Luck!

- Dan Tayloe, KK7BD, Phoenix, AZ QRPl # 696

>>

Just to add a few comments to the IRF510, 511 (etc) thread:

I've used these HexFets in transmitters for the LowFER band (160-190 kHz). One of my favorite circuits drove the gate of the IRF-series N-channel P/A

with square wave! That pushed up the efficiency a lot. The oscillator was a CD-4060 CMOS crystal osc/divider (LowFERs don't QSY much). There was a buffer was a 2N2222A/2N2970A. I did not DC bias the gate. Needless to say, the RF out of the P/A was not a pure sinewave but a Pi filter took care of that. (The nice thing about 160 kHz is that it is easy to measure waveform and voltage on most scopes) An RF filter before the P/A would kill efficiency I think. We need more experiments in driving these P/As with squarewave and filtering the output enough to meet FCC spec or "good engineering practice" I believe my efficiency was in the 80 or 85 percent area.
At 13 volts, my transmitter delivered 1.9 watts into 50 ohms. You might increase your TX power by using a wideband RF transformer between the P/A output and filter (Pi) network, though this may decrease efficiency. Use large heatsinks!

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Cecil A Moore <Cecil_A_Moore@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Subject: [3121] Re: Ladder-Line Fed Dipoles

Hi Claton, My experience doesn't agree with your advice on a couple of points.

>Avoid cutting the dipole to a lenght that will be a fullwave or >even multiple of a full wave on any of your frequencies of >interest... The little bit you gain by being >resonant on 80 is nothing to what you will lose on 40.

Assume a resonant half-wave dipole on 80m fed with 450 ohm ladder-line. EZNEC sez it will have an SWR of 10:1 (450/45). That very same 80m dipole fed with 450 ohm ladder-line used on 40m has an SWR of 12:1 (5400/450). There's not a lot of difference between 10:1 and 12:1 and if you feed the 80m dipole at a current maximum on 40m, you will not even need an antenna tuner as the 50 ohm SWR will be 1.3:1. Losses are neglible and approximately the same on both 80m and 40m!

Moral: If one uses 450 ohm ladder-line, don't worry about it being a full wavelength as SWR is limited to approximately 12:1 and is approximately the same as the half wavelength SWR because the ratio of 450 ohms to resonant impedance is approximately the same as the ratio of antiresonant impedance to 450 ohms!

>This one is a little harder. Don't cut your feedline such that it >is a quarter wavelenght long...

A quarter-wavelength is exactly what one needs to match the 5400 ohm impedance above. A quarter-wavelength will yield a 50 ohm SWR of 1.3:1

>Every so often the G5RV myth raises its ugly head. Now I'm not saying it
>doesn't work, because it does. But so will old bedsprings.

The G5RV is lots better than old bedsprings. Everyone knows it works well on 20m, the band for which it was designed. The half-wavelength 20m matching section becomes a quarter-wavelength matching section on 40m taking the high impedance of the antenna down close to the current node resulting in a relatively low SWR on the coax. The matching section becomes 1/8 wavelength on 80m, exactly what one needs to neutralize the capacitive reactance and bring the antenna close to resonance. Use RG-213 and losses from 60ft of coax will be a fraction of an 'S' unit i.e. undetectable at the other end.

73, Cecil, W6RCA, OOTC (not speaking for my employer)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@Spacestar.Net>
Subject: [3135] Re: Ladder-Line Fed Dipoles
Message-ID: <199610292009.OAA08509@Spacestar.Net>

Cecil A Moore <Cecil_A_Moore@ccm.ch.intel.com> wrote:

> Hi Claton, My experience doesn't agree with your advice on a
> couple of points.
>
> >Avoid cutting the dipole to a lenght that will be a fullwave or
> >even multiple of a full wave on any of your frequencies of
> >interest... The little bit you gain by being
> >resonant on 80 is nothing to what you will lose on 40.

I see you selectively quoted my statement. You forgot intervening lines:

"An 80 meter dipole is a full wave on 40, 2 full waves on 20 etc. The feedpoint impedance will be about as high as you can get and the SWR between antenna and transmitter will be huge."

> Assume a resonant half-wave dipole on 80m fed with 450 ohm ladder-line.
> EZNEC sez it will have an SWR of 10:1 (450/45). That very same 80m
> dipole fed with 450 ohm ladder-line used on 40m has an SWR of 12:1
> (5400/450). There's not a lot of difference between 10:1 and 12:1 and
> if you feed the 80m dipole at a current maximum on 40m, you will not

> even need an antenna tuner as the 50 ohm SWR will be 1.3:1. Losses are
> neglible and approximately the same on both 80m and 40m!

Your example includes the effect of the selecting 450 ohm feedline and that it presents a 450 ohm termination. My discussion to this point was concerning the relationship of the antenna feedpoint impedance (5400 ohms according to your figures for forty meters) and the transmitter's 50 ohm output. An SWR of well over 100:1! There is nothing you can put between the feedpoint and the transmitter to alter this relationship.

> Moral: If one uses 450 ohm ladder-line, don't worry about it being a
> full wavelength as SWR is limited to approximately 12:1 and is
> approximately the same as the half wavelength SWR because the ratio
> of 450 ohms to resonant impedance is approximately the same as the
> ratio of antiresonant impedance to 450 ohms!

I believe this statement is only true for a specific length of feedline, frequency and antenna tuning device. Just because you choose 450 ohm line doesn't mean the antenna/transmission line connection has a (antenna impedance)/450 ohm feedpoint relationship.

> >This one is a little harder. Don't cut your feedline such that it
> >is a quarter wavelenght long...
>
> A quarter-wavelength is exactly what one needs to match the 5400 ohm
> impedance above. A quarter-wavelength will yield a 50 ohm SWR of 1.3:1

For an 80 meter dipole used on 40 meters, I agree.

> >Every so often the G5RV myth raises its ugly head. Now I'm not saying
> it
> >doesn't work, because it does. But so will old bedsprings.
>
> The G5RV is lots better than old bedsprings. Everyone knows it works
> well on 20m, the band for which it was designed. The half-wavelength
> 20m matching section becomes a quarter-wavelength matching section
> on 40m taking the high impedance of the antenna down close to the
> current node resulting in a relatively low SWR on the coax. The
> matching section becomes 1/8 wavelength on 80m, exactly what one
> needs to neutralize the capacitive reactance and bring the antenna
> close to resonance. Use RG-213 and losses from 60ft of coax will
> be a fraction of an 'S' unit i.e. undetectable at the other end.

As I originally said, there is an article that dispels the G5RV myth better than I can. The G5RV does work, but not as well as it's legend has grown to say. Even Louis Varney, G5RV himself says the antenna design is not very good for multiband use. In your above statement you say "Everyone knows it works well on 20m, the band for which it was designed."

It was never designed to be a multiband antenna. I never said it was as bad as old bedsprings, I simply said that they would work too. I will say a G5RV is not as good as the antenna I described for a multiband dipole.

Also, one point you entirely missed. I said "Use the lowest loss feedline you can and be sure the antenna system is balanced." I suggested 450 or 300 ohm balanced line. However, there will be situations where coax will be the only option. Keeping the feedpoint impedance as low as possible is absolutely required for higher loss coax. The antenna and rules that I decried are, IMHO, the best set of guidelines around for the average Ham installation. I know you like the changing the feedline length tuning technique, but the fact is most Hams will throw a tuner and coax between the antenna and transmitter and go. The rules simply provide a way to make this system work as well as possible on all the bands of interest. If I could get everyone to use balanced line I would. I think it's great.

There will always be situations where a different approach will work and work better. But I have seen so many times advice given to use a coax fed 80 meter dipole with a tuner for multiband operation. It's simply poor advice. What I have presented will work much better and be easier to tune with a wider variety of equipment.

Claton Cadmus |73 de KA0GKC
Application Technologies Inc. |ARRL, QRP-ARCI, NorCal
Ph. (612)926-8886 |ARCC, MNQRP&HB Society
Fax (612)926-8545 |ka0gkc@ka0gkc.ampr.org
E-mail cla@spacestar.net |ka0gkc@wb0gdb.#stp.mn.us

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3138] Re: Mini-Circuits Mixers?
Message-ID: <199610292033.NAA29208@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

The PSC devices are power splitters, while the SRA-1 and TAK-1 are passive mixers (+7dBm LO injection).
Oh heck, here's what the MiniCircuits books says ...

	RF/LO --range-- IF		
SRA-1	.5-500 MHz	DC-500	$13 Mixer, mini-relay can size
TAK-1H	2-500 MHz	DC-500	$21 Mixer, low profile version of SRA-1
PSC2-1	.1-400 MHz		$11 2-way power splitter 0 degrees
PSCQ-2-90	55-90 MHz		$24 2-way power splitter, 90 degrees

72, Paul NA5N

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: okasb@rex.mtv.gtegsc.com (Bob Okas)
Subject: [3139] Re: Mini-Circuits Mixers?
Message-ID: <9610292037.AA13789@rex.mtv.gtegsc.com>

Rod and Gang,
    I have the data book here... SRA-1 is a high level (+10dBm) mixer. It's similar to the SBL-1, but covers 0.5-500MHz and has slightly poorer isolation specs. It requires +7dBm for the LO input and tolerates up to +1dBm on the input. The PSC2-1 is a 2-way power splitter/combiner. It covers 0.1-400 MHz. It is birectional: you can combine two outputs into one, or split one output into two. The in/out impedance is 50 Ohms. Since this is a 'power' splitter, each output will be 3 dB down w.r.t. the input. The PSCQ-2-90 is similar to the PSC2-1, except one of the input/output ports is in quadrature (90 degree phase shift) with the other. Since the phase shift is done with passive components, it has a limited frequency range. For this particular unit, the data book states that it's frequency range is 50-90 MHz. The phase unbalance is 3.0 degrees max and he amplitude unbalance is a max of 1.2 dB.

    Mini-Circuits has a web page, but I don't have the URL handy. Hope this helps.

Bob - N3MBY/6 (W3__ any day now...)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Patrick Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>
Subject: [3142] Re: Mini-Circuits Mixers?
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961029205113.00959c18@freebird>

>   If I can't see any use for them, I'll offer them to members
>of the list rather than toss them out.

They're crap. Junk. They're worse than junk -- they're -- uh-- dangerous, yeah, that's it -- they're dangerous -- they emit 33rd-Degree Mesons and Lucky Charm Quarks. You must immediately ship them to me for proper disposal.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "J. Skalski" <jskalski@acsu.buffalo.edu>
Subject: [3148] Re: Mini-Circuits Mixers?
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.93.961029161557.24574A-100000@autarch.acsu.buffalo.edu>

SRA-1 made by MCL
lo 5-500
rf 51-500
if dc-500
conversion loss 6.5db
mid range isolation 45db
mid range lo-if 40 db
total pwr 500mw
lo pwr needed +7dbm (5mw)
sig 2db compression level +1`dbm
impedance allports 50 ohm

I would think you could use them like SBL1

I don't have any dope on the others, i've use d the SRA1 in a 2m
transverter.

=

73,

Jim N2GO
The Buffalo QRP CONNECTION
ARCI #9013 QRP-L #381
jskalski@acsu.Buffalo.EDU

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>
Subject: [3117] Re: NE602 Front End Overload
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.1.846611959.10494.myers@bigboy>

Dan Tayloe wrote:

[Description of problem with poor lil NE602 getting overloaded]

>   That leads me to a couple questions:
>
>   - What is the closest shortwave broadcast band to 30m?
>
>   - Is it possible to add a 10 db preamp and a series tuned trap to get
>   rid of the offending broadcast station and still keep 10.1 MHz?
>
>   - Should I just forget low receive power (NE602 front end) and go with
>   a preamp/diode mixer front end instead?

I doubt you need a preamp, and you can probably make the NE602 work OK.
Put a pre-selector in the front end, or tighten up the existing preselector
if you already have one.

>   - Could the overload be cured by adding back to back diodes across the
>   input tuned circuit into the NE602 front end?

Back-to-back switching diodes can be a real source of IMD when strong
signals are present. I avoid them whenever I can. They're almost always
included as a measure to protect your front end from damage, not
from overload. Switching iodes in the front end like this can be
especially bad when they mix incoming signals and then the mix products
radiate out the antenna.

Note that PIN diodes are not the same as switching diodes.

Dana KK6JQ
Dana@Source.Net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: ori@HEA.COM (Ori Mizrahi-Shalom)
Subject: [3125] re: NE602 Front End Overload
Message-ID: <199610291854.KAA06594@salmon.heava.com>

Hi Dan,

>   That leads me to a couple questions:
>   - What is the closest shortwave broadcast band to 30m?

AM detection can come from the image frequency, consider your IF too.
It can also be a direct feed into your IF, with a bad IF frequency selection.
As Dana already wrote, IMD at your T/R switch can be an issue.

>   - Is it possible to add a 10 db preamp and a series tuned trap to get

>   rid of the offending broadcast station and still keep 10.1 MHz?

Some selectivity is a must on a front-end, at least for the image rejection.
The pre-amp will worsen the overload and IND, although it will improve
sensitivity.
I think you'll find that tweaking the circuit can give you more gain, like
a differential output from the NE602.
It's possible that you're getting most of the noise from the MC1350. If you add
a pre-amp, check if you need the MC1350 at all.

>   - Should I just forget low receive power (NE602 front end) and go with
>   a preamp/diode mixer front end instead?

Many designs work well with the NE602, don't give up. A diode ring mixer is
only one link in a long receive chain. Any weak link will "damage" the IMD
characteristics, although some are more important. The diode ring mixer may
solve your particular problem, since it it exhibits a conversion loss instead
of the NE602's conversion gain.
This will, of course, decrease sensitivity... the next question is where do you
add the gain. That will start you on a totally new design. So, what compromises
you want to make, Dan?

>   - Could the overload be cured by adding back to back diodes across the
>   input tuned circuit into the NE602 front end?

Overload - probably not. If you can't filter it out then you may want to add an
attenuator. A strong front-end that won't saturate with strong-signals will use
lots of current, consider that in your analysis.

In regard to overload and IMD, you may want to read the following articles in
Dec '94 QST p. 25 and p. 38. They have references to other good material.

GL ES CU ON 30

ORI

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Gary Surrency <gsurrenc@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [3152] Re: NE602 Front End Overload
Message-ID: <32769B68.2770@ix.netcom.com>

Dan Tayloe-P26412 wrote:
>
>   Was listening to 30m last night around 10 p.m. and noticed that I had

>   weak AM detection of some shortwave station everywhere I tuned.

---SNIP---

Sounds like cross-modulation or IMD interference. It could also be poor IF rejection. I had a similar problem with my ARK30 that I posted a fix for on this list about a month ago. Daniel Wee also had a BCI problem with his ARK20 on 20m. In both cases, a better RF bandpass filter cured the BCI. In both of our rigs, the offending carrier was tuneable by the RIT, but the digital thumbwheel main synthesizer tuning knobs had no effect on the interference. The RIT varies the translation oscillator, a crystal oscillator used for the synthesizer.

If you are using a VFO, but the BCI seems to be on every frequency, it is probably a mixer by-product that it getting mixed with the SW station, producing the IF frequency of your rig, whatever that frequency is. So, you might figure out the possible IF image frequencies of your rig, and work backwards from that point to determine the SW station frequency. At my QTH, I don't hear too many strong SW stations on 30m, only an occasional one like somebody on this list posted this weekend, and they are easy to tune around, and don't appear all over the band.

There are a LOT of SW stations NEAR 10MHz. I bought a book from Radio Shack recently to track some of them down, as a strong BC station was getting into the front-end of my old SB104A. Turns out it was WHRI, either of TWO megawatt religious SW broadcast transmitters in Indiana, USA! Great, not enough to have the VOA booming into the ham bands, now we have the religious powerhouses here, too.

The book at RS is pn.62-1335, "The WorldWide Shortwave Listening Guide.", for $8.99. It may help you figure out which station is your problem, since LO frequencies and IF filters vary, depending on your rig. I suggest using a signal generator held nearby your rig, and sweep the freq. around until you get a heterodyne in your rig. Of course, it would have to be different than the intended receive frequency! ;-)

I did just this with my MFJ-259, to verify the offending frequency into my ARK30. It was at 9.8MHz, mixing with a low-level LO product of 21.8MHz and producing a 12.0MHz IF carrier, the same frequency as my rig's IF. A new RF bandpass filter with a narrower passband solved the problem. Both Daniel Wee and I posted this type of filter here on the list.

If you use a MFJ-259, BTW, set it so the frequency counter gate is at the longest interval. This will produce a cleaner output frequency from the built-in oscillator and it makes for a cleaner signal, with less digital noise from the counter circuits. Use an AC adapter, and let it warm up real good, so the drift will be minimized. It's OK as a poor man's RF signal generator if you don't have one already. (Or does your employer,

Motorola, not have any?) ;-)

You might also ask the manufacturer of your particular rig about it, since he/she may already know about it and may have a solution so you don't have to re-invent the wheel. Or post the details here on the list and someone else may know about it, as was the case for me.

Good hunting!

72/73,
--
Gary, AB7MY QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)Grid Square DM43BH

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)
Subject: [3106] RE: Parts
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961029164137.18a7b912@eloi>

In a recent post, Paul Harden wrote:
>
>With the recent talk of noted component variations ... a caution
>mentioned on QRP-L before bears repeating: always be a bit
>suspicious of the specs of components purchased from some of the
>hobby vendors.

I'll second that!!

I recently bought a bunch of parts from a well known ham parts vendor who's name will not be mentioned to protect the guilty. The IC's (some NE602's, LM380's, etc.) were just tossed into a plastic bag with the other parts and ever one had bent pins. Most of the silver mica caps had clipped-off leads indicating to me that they had probably been removed from some piece of equipment. The trimmer caps were dirty and looked like they had been sitting around for years. The parts may be OK (haven't tested the IC's, but I did check some of the caps), but for only a few dollars more for the total order I could have obtained brand new parts from Mouser, DigiKey, Newark or even Ocean States Electronics (not a big outfit, but I have always been satisfied with the quality of parts that I have received from them). Newark tends to be the most expensive, but all parts are individually packaged in static proof plastic pouches! I will NOT purchase parts again from "Mr. X" (hint: he's located not too far from Idaho).

We hams have a reputation of being cheap, but come on guys and gals, how much is your time worth to you? How many times have you futzed around for hours trying to get a gizmo that you built to work only to discover that one

of the "new" parts in it was bad? I, for one, will only buy from known
sources of good parts whenever possible.

The bottom line: When I buy parts, I expect to receive new up-to-spec
merchandize. If I want used parts, I'll scrounge them out of old circuit
boards myself.

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Roger Traylor <traylor@ECE.ORST.EDU>
Subject: [3113] Re: Parts
Message-ID: <199610291735.AA135000541@holmes.ece.orst.edu>

Gang,
      Larry, W1HUE wrote....

> We hams have a reputation of being cheap, but come on guys and gals, how
> much is your time worth to you? How many times have you futzed around for
> hours trying to get a gizmo that you built to work only to discover that one
> of the "new" parts in it was bad? I, for one, will only buy from known
> sources of good parts whenever possible.
>

  I strongly agree with that philosophy. I have lost many hours working on
  projects only to find out that some component is dead or out of spec. Also, if
  I have used a component and I suspect it may be damaged, I throw it out or
  thoroughly test it to verify its operation. I also check all resistors to
  verify their values because its too easy to misread the color bands with
  my eyesight.

  To prevent confusion between varieties of small value _ceramic_ capacitors,
  I stock only NP0 types for values =< 1000pf. Silver mica and polystyrene
  caps are easially identifable but those little ceramic caps aren't. This
  prevents confusion when building vfo's or other critical modules. I also
  belive Wayne Burdick mentioned that NP0 caps usually are lower loss. Sure it
  costs more, but my time is worth it.

  Roger Traylor
  WB4TPW

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996

From: Dale Anderson <dalea@artemis.fc.hp.com>
Subject: [3131] Re: Propagation
Message-ID: <9610291941.AA27988@artemis.fc.hp.com>

>Have read several posts about "so-called" dead bands. As many
>discover over time, the bands ars seldom, if ever, dead. I submitt
>tha all bands are open all the time. The secret is finding out " to
>where".

I REALLY have to agree with this. Last night was a perfect example. About 0830Z I was surfing the 40m band. Talk about "DEAD"! I couldn't even hear any of the usual BC stns in the Novice seg! Heard some CW gods in 5-land flying about 35wpm+ down around 7.035MHz but besides them and some QRN crashes, NADA! I called CQ over and over on 7.040 es 7.110. Nobody responded. Increased my power from 1w to 5w and STILL nothing. Very unusual. ...not to mention tiring banging out unanswered CQs on a straight key...

Decided to tune around the band one last time before heading to bed. When I came across 7.120 I heard it. ...A faint CQ at about 18wpm. "Hmmm, wonder where this one is", I thought. He then sent, "de HJ5YMU". HUH?!!! By then, his sig had jumped to 589! I came back to him with my previously set 5w. ...nothing. Tried again, ...nothing. -then he resumed calling CQ. ...Bummer.

Hmmm, suddenly I found myself in a dilemma. Do I pass up my FIRST ever DX QSO or do I try (GASP!) QRO and be forever labeled an infidel by my QRP-L peers... I decided my fate in half a second when he finished his call and sent 'K'. (Ok! So he caught me at a weak moment. Gee wiz, I repent!)

Neftali was in Cartago, Columbia, S.A. We had an hour-long QSO. I'm SURE I could have worked him at QRP if I could've rotated my dipole in his direction instead of having an END pointing at him like it is. Oh well. We made due.

Anyway, so like Al said. The band WAS open to SOME place. It happened to be from Colorado to South America last night. Cool!

72 de Dale, KB0VCC
Fort Collins, CO
QRP-L #91 / CQC #251

P.S. Are there any callsign servers on the WWW that
cover Columbia so I can confirm Neftali's address?
Otherwise I think I got it ok, despite the efforts
of some LID (K2call/5) at +10db who tried calling
me over and over while I tried to copy Neftali's
address. --as if the QRN es QSB didn't make it
challenging enough!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: jdenison@aisp.net (JOEL DENISON)
Subject: [3110] RE: QRPp
Message-ID: <19961029170233111.AAA147@slip1.ts-f-merrill.caps.maine.edu>

Don't know the current definition of qrpp but I do have a qrpp certificate for 50 states I worked with an argonaut 509 at approx 2 watts out. This was back in the 70's. I thought the qrpp applied at 2.5 or 2 watts... times change and those were changing times.

This is the time period that 5 watts was determined to be output not input. It is also interesting to note that I did most of my qrpp on 20 and ten meters. I never could seem to make contacts on 40 mtrs till I moved up here to maine in '93.

I am amazed at the number of 1 watt or less contacts I see posted. I figure a very good antnna or more time trying than working is the rule. I even had the urge to turn my power down from 4+ watts to something around 2.5 watts. I will resist that urge until I get a better antenna set up as I enjoy making contacts and chating a while as opposed to loging a qrz or i almost worked him/her in the log.

I have been on the receiving end of 100 mw contacts on forty and other bands. They are super exciting when they happen.

strayed from the topic sry

Bye now
God Bless
Joel

WA5CVM Qrp ARCI #4066 NE-QRP #476 QRP-L #765
Joel Denison
81 High street Horiz. Loop up 30ft Inverted V up 33ft.
Farmington, Maine 04938
jdenison@aisp.net QRP PLUS 5w SSB & CW

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3088] Re: QRPp ?
Message-ID: <199610291331.NAA19296@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

George et.al.,

QRP <= 5.0W
QRPp < 1.0W

< 0.099W is called lonely. :-)

: Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) WAS 40m/30m/20m=49/49/50
: EMPS QSOs=3 STATES(w/c)=3/2 DX=0 : MO TN OK

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Bob White WO3B <bobwhitewo3b@geocities.com>
Subject: [3096] Re: QRPp ?
Message-ID: <32762F4C.13D4@geocities.com>

George T. Pasek Jr. wrote:
>
> OK, if QRP is considered to be 5 watts or less... Is QRPp 1 watt or less,
> or Less Than 1 watt? How about QRPpp ?
>
>   QRP =   1 - 5 watts
>   QRPp =   .1 - .999 watts
>   QRPpp = <.099 watts
>
> ??
>

.099W is 99mW which is quite a large number (QRPp speaking).
QRPpp would have to be <1mW or .000999W

****
*   Bob White WO3B -- QTH Pasadena, MD (3907.44 7627.02)   *
*   HTTP://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/5582   *
****

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [3133] Re: QSL Card
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.961029114510.10612A-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

Hi Keith,

Yep, I do qsl. But am out of cards.

The printer said, last Friday, that he would be sending me more
on Monday. So far my box is empty but I have every reason to think
they will show up soon.

I thought I would post to the list in case others are wondering why
the delay in getting a card from NV. :-)

cul,

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: 29-Oct-1996 0659 <randolph@asic.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [3082] re: RF Amp, transformers and final notes
Message-ID: <9610291215.AA13496@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

> 6. Since the driver stage is now driven softer, it hardly gets warm at all!

Yah, that's one thing I learned about QRP power amps. They really don't run
very hot if they're running correctly. A sure sign of trouble is a hot
transistor. My first ever QRP transmitter got scrapped because of thermal
problems caused by an improperly operating 1W amp.

I'll be eagerly awaiting the MOSFET Q&A. I'm leaning strongly toward using
those for my next transmitter project, and need to learn a little from the
experts.

==========
Tom Randolph N1OOQ NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL   randolph@asic.enet.dec.com
==========

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)
Subject: [3109] RE: RF-1
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961029165644.1c377278@eloi>

>The expected Z for a full wave loop is around 100 ohms Z
>at resonance. However, the RF-1 is a 50 ohm instrument.
>
Say what?? Where did you get the idea that it is a 50 Ohm instrument?

You should keep in mind that the RF-1 only reads the resistive component
when in SWR mode, but it displays the complex impedance when in "impedance"
mode (check the manual...).

72, Larry, W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [3097] Re: SS TX Challenge
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.961029070721.9350I-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

On Tue, 29 Oct 1996, chuck adams wrote:

> Good news for me, bad news for KU7Y. :-)   ;-)

I, on the other hand, will carry the QRP philosophy even to the
antennas.....

My lowly little low wires will have a higher angle of take-off
and will cause some contest type DX chassing stations to wonder
what that whirlwind was.....!

Let the games begin.......

(Remember Chuck, this is for dinner......)

cul,

73, Ron,

.........KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu...........Washoe Lake, Nevada....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [3072] Re: Tree Fishing
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.961028233948.2247D-100000@u1.abs.net>

I forget now who started this thread, but no matter, It is cloose to my heart. Antennas and Trees, I think God made them to go together.
I am down to about three, No four and am just waiting for the weather to change. Way to nice to do antenna work right now :^) I have read a lot of good comments on here already. Many are right on Target. :^).
I use both the Wrist Rocket, sinkers and Monofilament Line as well as the "Robin Hood" method. There are "DANGERS" involved with both to be sure. Some have been mentioned. All kidding aside, a hard hat and "Safety Glasses" are good habits to get into when using the "Tools of the Trade". I use some specialzed tools myself. I also have a Zebco 202 (Ithink) on a matching rod. One of those inexpensive outfits that we always buy the kids until we are sure that they are gooing too like the sport. (Fishin') I have an adaptter shaftt that allows it to be jammed intoo tthe ground soo I dont have to hold it. I do nott use the top secttion of the rod, just the bottom half and the reel. I use the cheapest 12-20 # test line tthat I can get. I generally use a 2 oz tear drop sinker. Warning, If you use anything heavier, be weary of backlash. The sinker will return too the launcher if tthe line snags! Ben there done that. (Hard hats are good :^)) Some times I Just use a 70 foot piece of 20-50 # test line laid out on the ground and fastened to a piece of 3/16 Dacron or Nylon line. These are used to pull up the permanent Haylards or in some cases to pull up my 5/8 poly rope for removal of dead wood in the tree. Anoother story. It is usually best to go with the moonofilament first and then tie on the heavier line. I also use the Boline knots a lot. I have also installed Pieces of Insulated # 6 ground wire Loops on some of my trees. Dont Make tthem permanently tight by twisting the ends or tthe tree will "Grow over tthem" (Done That).
I bend the ends into loops and ttie the loops together with a shortt piece of dacron unttil I am ready to fasten the antenna haylards. I usually connect my big 5/8 rope to the end of the haylard with a doggie clip or a mountain climbing keeper til I get the antenna up then the end of the haylard is tied off at the #6 loops. The tension on the line pulls the #6 wire loops up at an angle and they grab the bark nicly. No damage to the trees and easily adjustable. I have never used a counter weight.
My trees are mostly Hickory and Pin Oak about 65 feet tall. I have never had a problem with antenna breakage due to tree movement. There is a lot of give in both Nylon and Dacron Lines (Dacron is preferred). I used the 3/16 Nylon lines for years, but is deteriorates in about a year or ttwo at best due to UV from old Sol. I used it because tthe price was right at he time. Also I could pick up 50 and 100 lengths att my local grocery and camp stores. I now buy the Good Stuff (Dacron) from The Wire man, Davis RF or The RF Connection. I now use the Bow and Arrow method more than the Wrist Rocket. I feel that I have better control with it. in the beginning, I did not have any close neighbors, so it didn't matter much if I missed noow and then or if a "Sinker WENT WILD" a 2 OZ sinker can travel quite a distance if the line breaks. One quick reminder here. The reason for using CHEAP line is so that you can afford

to throw it away after itt is used once or twice. PLEASE DON'T LEAVE IT
in the FIELD! Always remember to bring a TRASH BAG for your scrap
line,wire, tape, etc. When I use the BOW, I have SPECIAL Arrows for
different areas. You can take the new aluminum arrows and make "BALL"
ttips for them froom Rubber balls or "Top Flight- Golf Balls" with a screw
into it. Yoou can always sharpen a brass rod, put it in the drill and
drill it into the ball then get oout the tap and die set and tthread it
to match the arrow. I also have a couple of "30-06" Arroow tips. That is
a spent cartridge brass which has molten lead pured into it and then I
insert the arrow shaft before it cools. You get an arrow that goes up
nice and straight (Like a Bullet" :-)), and comes down very sharply
as soon as it looses speed. The idea is to go thru the notch in the tree
which you have selected and drop quickly to the ground. Don't you hate
it when you make a "Perfect shot" on the first try, only to have the darn
arrow continue on thru two more tree limbs. Then you spend two hours
trying
to get the line where you want it. Not so easy tto explain in words, but
you will know what I mean after you do it a few times :^). Well, guys,
there you have it. Danny's Secret Weapons for Antenna erection. Oh Yes,
I almost forgot, Don't try tto use a Compound bow unless you are shooting
for an overhead long wire. I once had a 500 foot long wire laying on top
of the trees. I also lost a few arrows with that thing. Borrowed my sons
Big BEAR. I found that a #25 long bow is best. I was given a nice OLd
lemon wood by an O.T. years ago. I also have a Fiberglass KIDS training
bow about 15-20 #. I used to keep that in the car. It is a good idea to
get someone to show you how to do it if you can. I had to learn most of
my methods the hard way :^)

72,73 es
QRP DX TU (C) 1986 G.Danny Gingell, K3TKS@.abs.net
Maryland Milliwatt QRP Reference Library, (301)572-6789

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Thomas J. Whalen" <whalen@swcp.com>
Subject: [3115] Re: tv twin lead
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.961029104900.25030C-100000@kitsune.swcp.com>

On Tue, 29 Oct 1996, JOEL DENISON wrote:

> I read this in the list today:
>
> The thing to do would be to rip out the coax and replace it with 450-ohm
> ladder line, or a low-loss 300 ohm TV ribbon.
>
> I have been wonering if tv twin lead would work effectively at 5

> watts. Would some of the radio shack stuff work? any specific name (type)?
>   I'm using rg58 for it's low weight. I used 450 ladder line at this
> year's field day and it sure tuned easier.
>   If the twin lead is not that hot of a solution, anyone got the
> address   of someone I can order the ladder line from.
> Thanks Joel
> Bye now
> God Bless
> Joel
>
> WA5CVM   Qrp ARCI #4066   NE-QRP #476   QRP-L #765
> Joel Denison
> 81 High street   Horiz. Loop up 30ft   Inverted V up 33ft.
> Farmington, Maine 04938
> jdenison@aisp.net   QRP PLUS 5w   SSB & CW
>
>
Hi Joel, I use the Rat Shaft 300ohm and it works great. Just buy the
better stuff and not the cheap thin junk. Tom WB5QYT>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Bob Edwards <rbe@atlanta.com>
Subject: [3150] Re: tv twin lead
Message-ID: <3276BB1F.4C59@atlanta.com>

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

--------------6FE85102CDE
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

JOEL DENISON, WA5CVM wrote:

> I have been wonering if tv twin lead would work effectively
> at 5 watts. Would some of the radio shack stuff work?

Yes, Yes.

My EMPS QSOs are via 5 watts, Twin Lead, and a horiz loop cut for 80.

--------------6FE85102CDE
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline; filename="FOOTER.TXT"

|-------------------------------------|
| Bob AE4CA WAS-5W nr Atlanta @EM73wt |...."QRP", more from less....
|-------------------------------------|
ARCI, MIQRP, CQC, NorCAL, QRP-L, ARS, ARRL
:EMPS QSOs=29 STATES=19/2 DX=?
MO,MS,GA,AR,MI,IL,KY,DC,PA,LA,TX,NY,TN,KS,MN,OH,NC,FL,IA

--------------6FE85102CDE--

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: wb8ygg@juno.com (Bradley S. Mitchell)
Subject: [3166] Re: tv twin lead
Message-ID: <19961028.192339.12223.0.WB8YGG@juno.com>

I ran my 100 mw beacon with 100 Ft of tv twin lead to an 80 meter dipole. People heard it fine.

But Like Chuck says, I was lonely, only because nobody responded.

Oh yeah.. BTW

I want to tell you all this just to make a few of you cringe.

I run the twinlead through a pcv pipe beside all my coax! At 100mw no problem, at 100 w no problem. Maybe it's luck, but I have done several different antennas this way.

JUST DO IT or something like that.

73 Brad WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: Phil Wheeler <pcw12@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [3168] Re: Vanity Call - Info
Message-ID: <3276DF17.10CA@ix.netcom.com>

Alas, the FCC computer was down all day Monday (mon.zip FTP file was empty, so I called). Looks like it was back up Tues AM, based on a new file that appeared.

Yeah..maybe!

Phil w7uox

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>
Subject: [3127] Re: Vanity Update Tue 10:30 am PDT
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.1.846615703.14084.myers@bigboy>

John Shuster wrote:

> To All:
>
> Last Friday, I read on the ARRL home page that VC's could be issued "as
> soon as today", (meaning last Friday). No bananas.
>
> It's Tuesday morning, and I just called the FCC. Vanessa told me that "if
> everything goes OK", which leads me to think that they're going to do a
> computer dry run to see if it works, "vanity calls could be issued at the
> end of the week." Emphasis on the "could".
>
> So best case by Friday, right?

What does it really matter? The calls will be issued when they're issued.
Calling the FCC consumer hotline doesn't do anything, as far as I can tell,
to speed the process up.

I'm starting to think the FCC is terrified to actually process the day
1 applications; after the outcry about the random processing of the
day 1 applications and the (apparently) constant calls they're getting
from people stressed out about the wait, they're probably afraid of the
way the amateur community is going to react when almost everyone doesn't
get their #1 choice (I'm guessing this will happen).

Let's all take a chill pill, relax, and enjoy amateur radio. Heck,
I'm curious what will happen with my 610V, and I look at the FCC
database almost every day, but the bottom line is that the calls will
be issued when they're issued, no matter how much fretting we do ;-).

Dana KK6JQ
Dana@Source.Net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "Ahrens Tim" <tahrens@devmail.sps.mot.com>
Subject: [3129] Re: Who knows the price of AD7008 DDS chip?
Message-ID: <9609298466.AA846631562@devmail.sps.mot.com>

Received: by ccmail from motsps.sps.mot.com
>From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
X-Envelope-From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Received: by motsps.sps.mot.com (4.1/SMI-4.1/Email-2.1)
    id AA16092 for tahrens@devmail; Tue, 29 Oct 96 09:39:16 MST
Received: from fidoii.CC.Lehigh.EDU by spsem01.sps.mot.com (4.1/SMI-4.1/Email
2.1
 10/25/93)
    id AA22941 for tahrens@devmail.sps.mot.com; Tue, 29 Oct 96 09:38:01 MST
Received: from Lehigh.EDU ([127.0.0.1]) by fidoii.cc.lehigh.edu with SMTP id
<349
37-18982>; Tue, 29 Oct 1996 11:36:32 -0500
Received: from nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU ([128.180.1.26]) by fidoii.cc.lehigh.edu with
E
SMTP id <34924-24617>; Tue, 29 Oct 1996 11:35:38 -0500
Received: from mail.chinapro.net.cn (root@[202.112.6.132]) by nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU
(8.8.2/8.8.2) with SMTP id LAA232257 for <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>; Tue, 29 Oct 1996
11:
35:12 -0500
Received: from renbo.mail.chinapro.net.cn by mail.chinapro.net.cn with smtp
    (Smail3.1.29.1 #12) id m0vIHJz-001842C; Tue, 29 Oct 96 08:47 PST
Message-Id: <2.2.32.19961029163522.00674c98@mail.chinapro.net.cn>
From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [3083] RE: Working soft aluminum
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961029065525.26637F-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

> As Phil stated the best tools for
> tooling aluminum are hand tools, usually non-power driven
> ones (sorry Mr. Binford).
>
> Kevin, WB5RUE
>
To all who wrote, properly shouting, DO NOT USE A BENCH GRINDER ON
ALUMINUM, I heartily agree.

However, the idea that hand tools are "best" is perhaps at best a choice
of preference and at worst a lack of experience in using them effectively.
Of course, I use my collection of files for finishing touches, odd
shapings, inside rectangular hole edges, etc. . .

Consider the following, however: I just made an internal baffle for a 7x9x2" chassis in the 7" dimension from an open end chassis section, 5x7" originally. Had to take down a little over 1/8" so it would fit inside the chassis.

If you use any saw for the main cut, be sure you use the proper metal blade--not a wood-cutting blade--that applies to power and to hand tools. The tooth arrangement is quite different. I have seen wood blades grab metal and the metal grab the worker--and, no, I won't show you my scars to prove it. Won't even show my receipts for a batch of metal blades and bandaids.

Back to the baffle. With the bench sander and a medium grade grinding-sanding disk, placed work on the table and drew the edges down evenly and smoothly so that the baffle glides into place. Touched up the edges (deburring and smoothing the otherwise sharp edges) with 120 grit paper disk (and paper does not last long in this application- but disk sanding folks tend not to change their disks often enough anyway). Touched up the edges with a little hand sanding. Total post-cut time: 8 minutes, including cleaning up the shavings and putting away safety glasses and putting dust covers back over the equipment.

Estimated time for a file job? Well, for the long piece with its lip, I would have had to make up a jig to hold it stead in the vise without marring it or the block-wood vise. Then to the actual work. My time is likely much longer than expert filers, whose precision hand work I admire. But for me, the sanding was not only more efficient, but much more precise. That is the preference/experience part. You can never fault the use of hand tools, if you get to be good at using them. But I tend to be better at using my power drills and drill press, my router, my sanders, my saws. All my stuff, accumulated over the years, is on the lighter duty side--certainly not the Norm Abrams behemoths that make a shop larger than the house one lives in. Get them one at a time and get to be as good as you can with them--do NOT get them all at once, or you are likely never to tame (let alone master) any of them.

Did I mention wearing long sleeves and gloves when doing this kind of work. Be careful about the gloves. I wear thin leather, what used to be called driving gloves when the MG-TD was popular. Protects the hands but does not present a danger of getting dragged into the equipment. I also wear them when filing and drilling only--aluminum/steel slivers are second only to the tips of blackberry thorns for being impossible to find and dig out.

I wonder if the power tool vs. hand tool argument will rage as eternally as the sail vs. power boat argument. It has gone on at least 40 years between my younger brother--a hand tool expert--and myself.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: wb2vuo@juno.com (William K Hibbert)
Subject: [3091] Re: xtal wanted
Message-ID: <19961029.085527.4727.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>

For the Bare Essentials, and other hollow-state TX's, I would not use a small plated Xtal. The crystal current is too high for the small units in HC-18 or HC-25 cans, and probably too high for most HC-6 mounted rocks, too...

The only source advertising recently (that I know of) that carries the FT-243 holders is JAN Crystal in Fort Meyers, FL

They have a free catalog, and take orders on the phone. The FT-243 holders aren't cheap, running about $7.00 each at the last check (1994).
  The phone number is:
(800) JAN-XTAL [526-9825]

I have bought a grunch of xtals from them over the years, and have had good luck with most, the exception being the "cheap" 2M FM rocks for my old Regency HR-2B. The rock in the KB2YTW/B beacon is one of theirs, and I got what I ordered. I got cheap, ordered a 10 ppm tolerance, and the rock is on the high edge, but within specs. Next time, I will order 2.5 or 5 ppm for the extra $3 - $5 bux...

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, QRP-L #582
Trustee, KB2YTW/B 10 Mtr Milliwatting Beacon (250 mW @ 28.2870 MHz)
"In the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp...FN13ac"

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Oct 29 23:12:06 1996
From: kd1jv@juno.com (Steven Weber)
Subject: [3100] Re: xtal wanted
Message-ID: <19961029.110420.7231.0.KD1JV@juno.com>

>The only source advertising recently (that I know of) that carries the

FT-243 holders >is JAN Crystal in Fort Meyers, FL

>They have a free catalog, and take orders on the phone. The FT-243 holders aren't >cheap, running about $7.00 each at the last check (1994). The phone number is:
>(800) JAN-XTAL [526-9825]

I have a new JAN catalog....The FT 243 are now $25.00 each, 3000 Khz to 8900 Khz.

xtals in HC6/U or HC33/U cases in the 3 to 19.9 Mhz range cost $11.00 for 50 ppm and $15.00 for 10 ppm tolerance.

Thier minumin order is $20.00 and generaly take about 4 weeks to make a xtal to your freq.

Not long ago I had to replace a xtal with an odd freq, so paid the 20 bucks just to get one xtal. Wicked expensive, but if you need, it you need it :-)

de KD1JV Steve